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IZVESTIYA'S FALIN REJECTS INF INTERIM OPTION

PM041929 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 Apr 83 Morning Edition p 5

[Article by IZVESTIYA political observer V. Falin: "Contrary to Reason"]

[Text] The entire world waited with intense attention for the Soviet Union's reaction to the so-called "interim option" advanced by President R. Reagan for resolving the problem of medium-range nuclear weapons. So the interest shown in Comrade A.A. Gromyko's press conference, during which the Soviet position was expounded with utter clarity, in a well argued and businesslike way, is entirely understandable. "The current line adopted by the United States at the Geneva talks," A.A. Gromyko stressed, "is not the line of rapprochement. It is a line which moves away from agreement, a line aimed at complicating the situation, at cranking up the arms race even more, worsening relations with the Soviet Union even further, securing even greater increases in military budgets and pinning down even harder the forces which advocate finding a common language with the Soviet Union and resolving the problem of disarmament." The "interim option" was described as not serious, unbalanced, unconstructive and completely unacceptable to the USSR.

This just appraisal was greeted with complete understanding in broad international public circles and by many prominent Western politicians and military men. They expected no different, just as official Washington itself reckoned on no other response. Washington undoubtedly knew of the Soviet Union's principled approach, as expounded recently by Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. And if the U.S. State Department, assisted by the diplomatic departments of a number of allied countries, is now making a performance of "disappointment with the Russians' reaction," it must be said right out that their weeping is prerehearsed and that the score bearing these lamentations was handed out to the performers ahead of time.

But let us go back to the sources for that score.

After a long torment of doubts about what was to happen to his "zero," the U.S. President suddenly rushed into action. His statement planned originally for 31 March was announced the day before. Why was that? Judging by all accounts, what was uppermost were fears that the American proposals could very well be taken in Europe as an April fool joke. And a bitter, not to say sick [skvernyy] joke at that.

Politics do not have to be boring. By no means. But it must always remain substantial [solidnyy]. Politicians should never be all alike. But if they are to remain politicians, they must all hold to universally accepted moral standards -- not to do violence to the facts, not to commit slander, and not to blacken others in the hope of brightening their own images. And tastes, inclinations and differences in outlook must play no special role here. They can neither justify nor excuse unscrupulous or dishonorable behavior.

What, indeed, is happening? A little over 1 and 1/2 months ago the American delegation at the talks on limiting nuclear arms in Europe embarked on its latest pointless exercise. It failed to utter a single new word of its own and obstinately refused to make a constructive examination of the Soviet proposals, only to trot out its patter about U.S. readiness "to hold talks on concluding an interim agreement" literally just before the bell sounded for the adjournment until 17 May. The idea was formulated in a general or, to be even more precise, a very general way. Details were left for later.

Perhaps R. Reagan was being generous to practical [delovoy] considerations? The President's statement and the clarifications to it occupy 11 pages of close-printed text. The "interim option" as such was granted one single paragraph in the statement: "The United States will significantly reduce the scale of its planned deployment of Pershing II and ground-based cruise missiles on condition that the Soviet Union reduces the number of its warheads on intermediate-range missiles to the same level on a global scale."

In case anyone's heart should miss a beat -- just suppose! -- a document issued by the White House staff to accompany the presidential statement explains that the new American proposal is conditional on acceptance of the following preliminary demands:

Equality of rights and limits [predel] for the United States and the USSR (replacing the principle of equality and identical security previously accepted by the sides);

-- No compensation to take account of third countries' forces (that is, a refusal to take account of all factors determining the strategic situation, first and foremost the nuclear forces of Britain and France);

-- Global limits (in other words, agreement must extend to the European and the Asian parts of the Soviet Union);

-- No negative effect on NATO conventional defense potential (a reference to the unwillingness to include aircraft and certain other types of arms in a treaty package);

-- Effective monitoring measures.

No more and no less. Why not put all the cards on the table? They take the doctrines asserting "American leadership" and the Pentagon directives promising the United States the hope of emerging victorious from a nuclear war, translate them into diplomatic language and palm these schemes off on the Soviet Union for approval.

It is reasonable to ask: Why did R. Reagan employ all his other words if he was only sketching out [im lish slegka oboznachen] the "interim option?" For self-advertisement and for the sake of drumming up all kinds of nonsense against Soviet policy. Here are the most characteristic passages.

Initially the President tries to create the impression that the United States burned with desire to hold talks on medium-range weapons, while the USSR invariably opposed them. Then the idea is presented that, once the talks opened, only the Americans pursued them seriously, while we were doing heavens knows what. Then comes a really dramatic gesture. "I do not intend to allow the shadow which has hung over the Geneva talks to continue complicating our quest for the path to peace," R. Reagan exclaims. "As far as intermediate-range nuclear missiles are concerned, it would be better to have none. But if there have to be some of these missiles in Europe, then it is better to have fewer than more of them." The statement concludes on the lyrical theme of extolling cooperation within NATO and complimenting the "considered and very deeply held views" of the allies, which apparently were "a substantial help in the elaboration of the new initiative."

Let us leave the American allies' views on one side. Life will show how "considered" and "deeply held" they were. But the method chosen by the head of the White House for giving the last rites (or is it a glorification?) to the "zero" can be described in the words of a certain poet: "The inability to find and speak the truth is a failing which no skill in speaking untruth can conceal." Everything that R. Reagan said about the Soviet Union was false through and through, while everything he had to say about the United States was fancied up.

For almost two decades, in contacts with the USSR Washington showed not the slightest interest in the problem of medium-range weapons or its own allies' concerns about such weapons. The Americans' standard answer to Soviet insistence on dealing with this class of weapons ran: The United States sees no reason for it. Only after the adoption in NATO of the decision to deploy Pershing II and cruise missiles in West Europe and under public pressure did the U.S. Government most reluctantly agree to start an exchange of opinions with us.

The Carter administration sent its representatives to Geneva, and for a few weeks they sat at the negotiating table. Then Washington took a year's "time-out" and tried to turn the NATO "twin-track" decision into a single-bloc [monoblochnyy] decision. It failed. It had to go back to Geneva, not to try to reach agreement but to try to prove that there could be no question of any understanding. For that purpose the American delegates were armed with the "zero" and told to stretch it out to the point of insanity. The United States killed almost 18 months more doing this.

The President prefers not to touch on these facts. They are being dropped from a Washington scenario written in the traditions of the well-known French proverb which says that a useful lie is better than a useless truth.

The head of the U.S. Administration asserts that the Soviet Union has submitted no "serious alternative proposals" to the American "zero" at the Geneva talks. Excuse me, but what about the proposals on the complete elimination of all medium-range nuclear facilities in Europe or on the renunciation of medium-range and tactical nuclear weapons by West and East simultaneously? That would be a real "zero solution," not just in name but in substance. And it would lead to the elimination of a "whole class of weapons" in Europe, not just selected -- according to U.S. demands -- types of weapons. The USSR proposed reaching agreement on a radical reduction of medium-range facilities -- by more than three times by the end of the eighties compared with present levels. It advocated a moratorium on the deployment of medium-range weapons in Europe for the period of the talks, and when the United States would not accept the moratorium idea it took corresponding commitments on itself on a unilateral basis and is strictly adhering to them, whatever slanders NATO figures may produce to the contrary. At the end of 1982 the Soviet Union expressed readiness to keep as many medium-range missiles in Europe as Britain and France have -- and not a single one more. Side by side with this, naturally, understanding would have to be reached on both sides' reducing to equal levels the medium-range nuclear weapon-carrying aircraft present in the region in question.

I have listed only the most substantial of the proposals advanced by the Soviet Union. Prejudice really has to exceed all bounds not to notice a "serious alternative" here. Or has Reagan's political color-blindness developed to such a pitch that his eyes can distinguish nothing except his own "zero"? A worrying ailment fraught with major complications.

R. Reagan's arguments about the "Soviet threat" and American "generosity" are equally worthless. The cock-and-bull story about the "Soviet threat" is an invariable motif of all militarist marching tunes in the West. But as for "protecting and defending the rights of the peoples," which the United States is claiming to do, Comrade A.A. Gromyko justly observed that "high moral values cannot be defended by a state which is engaged in preparation for war, above all nuclear war."

It is clear to every sober-minded person that no responsible state leadership can accept a settlement which establishes preferential security for the other side and is detrimental to its own.

It cannot and will not enter into an understanding which does not contain objective criteria and in which the quest for superiority determines the principle for counting existing weapons systems. There will be no agreement if many hundreds of nuclear weapon-carrying aircraft are artificially left out. It would be necessary to have lost all sense of measure and reality to establish an interconnection between the scale of the further militarization of Western Europe and the USSR's defense measures in the far east. A proposal which gives the West a 2.5:1 advantage over the USSR in nuclear warheads [boyezaryad] will not be accepted.

The "interim option" was saved up for Easter in vain. It has gained no righteousness from that. Just like the American version of the "zero solution," it is aimed at smashing the established balance, securing U.S. military superiority and creating a "position of strength" from which it is intended to build mutual relations with the USSR. The popular saying in these situations goes: They want to strip off seven layers of skin. The United States has submitted an application for five. And it has it in mind to get that many, if not more [Khotyat sem shkur sodrat. Ssha sdelali zayavku na pyat. I stolko zhe, yesli ne bolshe, u nikh na ume].

Washington is moved by the desire to undermine the Soviet Union's positions and to destroy socialism as a system. This task is officially formulated in the "defense directives" and other American Government documents. It is no accident that the "interim option" dovetails marvelously, for example, with the newly-ratified "Presidential Directive 75," aimed at destablizing the Soviet Union.

In politics the loose ends -- good and bad -- are usually all tied up. The title "interim option" correctly conveys its essence, if the authors were trying to build a bridge between the "zero solution" and the beginning of the practical deployment of Pershing and cruise missiles. The appearance of the "interim option" is logical if account is taken of R. Reagan's cynical explanation that the United States "has never budged from its intention to deploy the missiles on time.

The West Europeans' position, on the other hand, is illogical. They are slipping down the slope, trying to guess Washington's wishes and please it by hastening to fulfill them. When he trapped the soul of Faust, Mephistopheles gave him earthly bliss in exchange. What has tempted the European NATO members to make themselves prisoners of American militarism and turn their territory into a launchpad for first-strike weapons?

A fallacious doctrine, like a bad penny, almost always comes back to its maker, one prominent American researcher observed with respect to the U.S. Administration's policy. And that's the way it is. Those who are engaged in obstructing the Geneva talks are sowing the wind. What will it bring back, that wind? Or are they hoping once again that others will reap the whirlwind and that it will pass them by?

OBSERVER ON REASONS U.S. INITIATIVE UNACCEPTABLE

LD042253 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 3 Apr 83

[From the "International Panorama" program presented by APN political observer Gennadiy Gerasimov]

[Text] The people's spring peace offensive is worrying the U.S. and its NATO allies; and in order to hinder it, to, as the saying goes, take the wind out of the sails of this movement, a propagandistic counteroffensive is being devised. As Danish Foreign Minister Ellemann-Jensen said, at the moment in Europe there is a battle for hearts and winds.

So President Reagan announced a new U.S. initiative at the Geneva INF talks. Before this was the publicity -- wait, he said, wait -- and then the long-awaited appearance of the initiative, which was met with propagandistic fanfares from his loyal allies. It was like the noise a hen makes when it lays an egg. The egg was not a simple egg, but an Easter egg timed to coincide with the Easter holidays, with the beginning of the peace demonstrations. It looks pretty, but it is not advisable to eat it.

NATO Secretary General Joseph Luns openly spoke of the true aims in making the U.S. proposal precisely at this time. After all, it could have been formulated long ago. He was asked if the proposal, made specifically at this time, was not an attempt to suppress the wave of anti-war protest. Luns explained to his naive listeners: The government is resorting to such measures to restrain the steps being taken by the opposition. The choice of the right moment is very important.

Everything has its season: An egg has its value at Easter time.

All this also means that Washington, and perhaps NATO, is not concerned about the substance of the talks or about searching for a compromise. They are concerned about the opposition to their plans for missile deployment in Europe. They want to weaken this opposition with their Easter initiative, if not completely neutralize it. In making an interim proposal the President covered his Easter egg with gilt, with discussions on peace, and even morals. I think that little of this guilding remained after the press conference in Moscow on Saturday.

Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko stated that we have reason to say that Washington did not count on a positive Soviet reaction. This means that it was all a proposal to deceive the public. Washington's aim was to achieve the deployment in Western Europe of extra nuclear armaments. After all, the new proposal envisages the start of such a deployment and at the allotted times. Why should the Pentagon give up such an opportunity to create an additional threat at the borders of the USSR?

The present U.S. proposals are not acceptable for at least three reasons. In the first place, they do not count the nuclear forces of Britain and France. Both these countries are allies of the NATO countries. In the second place, they do not count the hundreds of U.S. planes -- which carry nuclear weapons -- at airbases in West European countries, and on at least six aircraft carriers cruising not far from Europe. Third, the U.S. proposals also concern the fate of Soviet medium-range missiles in the Asian part of the country. Meanwhile, all our territory, right up to Taymur, is covered by U.S. nuclear weapons from bases in this region. We have the right to counter this for defensive reasons.

Now let us take, as a criterion for evaluating the correlation of medium-range forces in Europe, the number of nuclear warheads. In this area NATO countries already have a superiority of 1 and 1/2 times, and if the interim proposal is implemented, NATO would have 2 and 1/2 times more warheads. For all these reasons, therefore, this is unacceptable to us.

Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko called on the United States to approach U.S.-Soviet relations more objectively. The USSR supports their improvement. We have seen many peace proposals, starting with the proposal for a general and total disarmament. We took the bold, decisive step of promising not to be the first to use nuclear weapons. In January the Warsaw Pact countries proposed to the NATO countries the conclusion of a nonaggression pact. We then heard in reply that the proposal was being studied. Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko noted that the same thing was said to him in Bonn as well, by Helmut Kohl and Hans-Dietrich Genscher. How long will this examination continue? Well maybe Bonn has other affairs on at the moment.

COMMENT ON GROMYKO 2 APR PRESS CONFERENCE

Reply to Reagan Slander

LD040100 Moscow in English to North America 2200 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Excerpts] Next we have a commentary by Vladimir Kazanskiy about the Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko's recent news conference in Moscow:

Andrey Gromyko, who is also a first deputy prime minister, was speaking in reply to recent speeches by the American President. President Reagan has been slandering Soviet policy. He has been making patently unacceptable proposals on nuclear arms, claiming that his policy pursues high moral values. An approach like this is dangerous to international peace and security, if only because it is designed to mislead public opinion. Andrey Gromyko gave convincing facts and arguments to this effect at his news conference. He said high moral values could not be defended by a nation preparing for a nuclear war which would incinerate many hundreds of millions of human beings. This country is the United States of America. Its government, which is preparing a nuclear war with all the dire effects for civilization, has no right to speak of defending high moral values with its foreign policy.

The Soviet foreign minister spoke at length at his news conference about President Reagan's latest proposals for medium-range missiles in Europe, which he had called an interim plan. Andrey Gromyko said it was absolutely unacceptable for several reasons. In the first place the Reagan plan fails to consider the 162 intermediate-range nuclear missiles and other such weapons of Britain and France, nor does it take in many hundreds of American aircraft carrying nuclear weapons based in Western Europe and on aircraft carriers. At the same time, the plan calls for dismantling Soviet intermediate-range missiles in Asian regions, though they have nothing to do with Europe. NATO now has a 50 percent superiority in nuclear warheads mounted on medium-range systems. If the so-called interim plan were implemented, NATO would have an almost 2 and 1/2 times superiority in the number of such warheads over the Soviet Union. Andrey Gromyko said, therefore, that the American President's proposal is not a road to peace or agreement.

He said Soviet policy on nuclear arms is to preserve. at all costs, equality and the principle of equality and equal security which took years to be established. As for American policy, it is aimed at destroying this principle and if the principle is indeed broken by the governments of the United States and other NATO countries the Soviet Union will undoubtedly take steps to secure its legitimate interests so that this principle continues to operate, said Andrey Gromyko.

The news conference in Moscow has shown again that the Soviet Union seeks to maintain the process of easing tension and to defuse the strained international situation. Its policy is aimed at reversing the mad arms race, at reducing and subsequently scrapping all arms.

State Department Reaction Criticized

LD041417 Moscow TASS in English 1348 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Moscow April 4 TASS -- TASS military news analyst Vladimir Bogachev writes:

Distortion of facts, juggling with figures and terms have for some time become an unwritten rule for representatives of the U.S. Administration.

Thus, in particular, in its statement on the press conference given by Andrey Gromyko, member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first vice-chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, USSR foreign minister, the U.S. State Department is making a sordid attempt at calling in question the precise data that NATO has in Europe now a fifty per cent advantage as regards medium-range nuclear warheads.

Representatives of the U.S. State Department are pretending that Andrey Gromyko was allegedly speaking about the ratio between the medium-range nuclear warheads of the USSR and the USA. But, in actual fact, the Soviet leader evaluated the balance of forces of the USSR and NATO, including, naturally, Britain's and France's nuclear weapons systems.

Secondly, contrary to statements by the U.S. State Department, Andrey Gromyko was comparing not warheads in ground-based medium-range missiles, but the number of nuclear weapons of both sides, which are known also to include air launched nuclear warheads and bombs.

The State Department's unscrupulous manipulations with the number of warheads, like many other crude distortions of the facts in the statement, become evident for everybody to see in a simple comparison of Washington's official statement and the text of the press conference.

Further Reaction Noted

LD042147 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1145 GMT 2 Apr 83

[From the "International Review" program presented by political observer Vladimir Dunayev]

[Text] Hello, comrades. You possibly saw today, on television, the direct relay of Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko's press conference. The reason for the press conference was the latest statements by the U.S. President. But, as Comrade Gromyko stressed, several other foreign policy questions had accumulated that were in need of elucidation. All the world's news agencies are now transmitting the text and summaries of the press conference. So, for foreign political observers, this Saturday has proved to be a pretty busy one. Many reports lay special stress on the conclusive and irrefutable nature of the arguments and, in addition, on the natural, clear and confiding manner in which Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko spoke. The first deputy to the Soviet premier was reflecting aloud, says the correspondent of a Mexican newspaper. It is extremely difficult to summarize, to reduce to just a few paragraphs, the wealth of meaning in what the Soviet foreign minister had to say, reports another journalist, this one from India.

Our foreign policy, Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko stated, is a policy of peace, a policy of friendship among peoples, a policy of noninterference in other states' internal affairs. It is a policy directed at defusing tension in the world, at taking the heat out of the situation. It is directed toward turning back the senseless arms race and above all at finding a way of limiting and reducing weapons. Now for a few extracts from foreign news agency reports:

UPI: Gromyko ridicules those circles that believe that the more pressure that is put on the Soviet Union the quicker an accord will be reached. REUTER: Moscow gives Washington a convincing reply on a whole range of international problems. AFP: Gromyko's graphic and convincing statements put Washington in a tricky position. The Polish agency PAP: Gromyko says that the proposals and initiatives of the Soviet Union and the socialist countries will go down in letters of gold in the history of international relations. These initiatives have had an enormous effect on public opinion, which is difficult to hide, the agency stresses.

U.S. PLANNING TO TARGET PERSHINGS ON SOVIET EAST

PM051019 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 Apr 83 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "The Observer's Information"]

[Text] London, 4 Apr -- New facts attesting to U.S. preparations to unleash a nuclear missile war have been made public.

It has become known to the London newspaper THE OBSERVER that the Reagan administration plans to deploy additional Pershing II missiles on launchers on U.S. territory from where they could hit targets in eastern regions of the Soviet Union. The U.S. Army intends to "target" these missiles on important Soviet military establishments in the far east. From the specialists' viewpoint, Alaska is an absolutely obvious option for deploying these launchers.

The plan to deploy some Pershing II missiles in the United States explains why U.S. Defense Secretary C. Weinberger's report points out that the Pentagon has placed orders for building a number of Pershing II missiles 200 percent greater than that planned for deployment in Europe.

U.S. WANTS TO 'TORPEDO' ARMS TALKS, BLAME USSR

LD040523 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0340 GMT 4 Apr 83

["From PRAVDA's International Review" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 4 April (TASS) -- "While stepping up its nuclear first-strike potential, the United States is planning to simulteneously paralyze Soviet strategic delivery vehicles [sredstva] and thus deprive the USSR of the ability to deliver a counter-strike," writes PRAVDA concerning the U.S. President's decision to begin developing the anti-missile system of the future.

The White House, the paper notes in its international review, is also endeavouring to create the additional potential for a first nuclear strike in Western Europe. It is gambling above all on the new nuclear missile weapons, primarily the Pershing II missiles, which are capable of reaching Soviet territory in a matter of minutes. In order to neutralize the anti-war movement and lull the Western Europeans, Washington is making all sorts of proposals calculated to end the possibility of achieving agreement on limiting nuclear arms in Europe. Such is the "zero option," and such is the interim option" proposed in a speech on 30 March. Their essence is the same -- to place the USSR in an unequal position and to undermine parity in Europe and the world.

In proposing to "reduce" to "equal ceilings" the Soviet medium-range missiles deployed and the U.S. missiles which the United States intends to deploy in addition to existing NATO medium-range missiles, PRAVDA continues, Washington is once again taking no account of the nuclear missile potential of Britain and France nor of the hundreds of U.S. aircraft with nuclear weapons onboard. It is also calling for the elimination of Soviet medium-range delivery vehicles in the Asian part of the USSR.

"To the firm statement of the unacceptability of such an approach which Andrey Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and USSR minister of foreign affairs, made at a news conference last Saturday, the paper writes, "Washington reacted with preplanned hypocritical sighs about the 'intractability' of the USSR. Surely they do not seriously expect our country to compromise its security interests. That cannot be. The administration is plainly seeking a way to torpedo the negotiations while laying the blame on the USSR for breaking them off. We say clearly: This is an unscrupulous venture."

PRAVDA DEPLORES U.S. NUCLEAR ARMS BUILDUP

PM012301 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 31 Mar 83 First Edition p 4

[Article by PRAVDA political observer Vitaliy Korionov: "Against the Current"]

[Excerpt] "World supremacy" has been and remains the content of imperialist policy, and the road toward it has invariably been planned through imperialist wars.

This was again demonstrated clearly to the peoples by the example of Hitlerite Germany. However, it was the fate of German fascism that showed particularly convincingly the end that lies in store for those who aspire to "world supremacy."

However, even in our time there are still people in the U.S. ruling circles and NATO who have not shelved wild schemes of this kind.

Speaking in San Francisco a while ago, the head of the U.S. Administration advocated moving into a future in which "our eagle will soar and America will be the mightiest power on earth." At about the same time reports appeared in the U.S. press indicating the means by which certain Washington circles would like to achieve those aims. Specifically, a secret U.S. Air Force study was published under the title "AF 2000: Air Force Power Entering the 21st Century." It proclaims: The aim of the United States is "to win a nuclear war." It states openly: "The United States must prevail" and oblige the Soviet Union to accept terms "favorable to the United States."

Material published in one of the latest editions of the West German periodical DER SPIEGEL provides further evidence of the cannibalistic plans being hatched in the quiet of Washington back rooms. Among other things, it tells of a meeting of U.S. National Security Council experts that took place in the underground White House "Operations Room" in 1977 and was chaired by Z. Brzezinski, then assistant to the President for national security affairs. Brzezinski formulated the main "guideline" as follows: "The Russians are the enemy. Above all the Russians must be killed."

"Since Ronald Reagan came to the White House," DER SPIEGEL writes, "Brzezinski's 'approach to nuclear war' has become the dominant teaching and the advocates of war have prevailed over those who wanted to avoid it." Since Weinberger's arrival, the Pentagon has started implementing a monstrous new armament program aimed at enabling America to unleash any type of war and to win conventional wars and nuclear wars, whether "limited" or "protracted, lasting up to 6 months," even including a world war against the Soviet Union.

Such schemes can only be described as complete madness. Even many of those who only a few years ago were helping to draft Pentagon plans now publicly admit this self-evident fact. The former commander of U.S. Forces, Pacific Area, retired Admiral Noel Gayler, who is now a member of the American Committee for East-West Accord, says: "There is no evidence that the Russians are planning to attack the United States... the Russians are ready for agreements." If we do not reach agreement, Gayler warns, "we shall all pay dearly." Asked why he had come to these conclusions, the retired admiral, saying that he had visited Hiroshima after it had been destroyed by the U.S. atom bomb, replied: "Very few of the present-day policymakers have seen all that with their own eyes... they have no real notion of what they are talking about."

Yes indeed, the nuclear age really does make unprecedentedly high demands on those responsible for the fate of peoples and states. No sensible solution to any question pertrubing mankind is to be found along the road of nuclear adventurism. The military-political stereotypes characteristic of the times of the U.S. monopoly on the atom bomb are dead. Washinton politicians must clearly understand that the USSR, while not seeking military superiority over the United States or any other country either, will never tolerate anybody gaining military superiority over itself.

"The military-strategic parity that has been attained has deprived the United States of the opportunity to blackmail us with the nuclear threat," Yu.V. Andropov stated. "This parity is a reliable guarantee of peace and we shall do our utmost to preserve it."

In the modern world new realities are at work that demand a fundamentally different approach to the problem of war and peace. The Soviet Union's historic initiative in pledging not to be the first to use nuclear weapons has gained ardent support from all honest people on earth for the simple reason that it makes it easier to pose the whole complex of questions pertaining to the limitation and reduction of armaments, particularly nuclear armaments, in a different way. The Soviet Union's new peace proposals likewise considerably facilitate the matter of halting the arms race. The peace initiatives formulated at the Prague conference of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Pact member states have met with great interest, understanding and support from peoples as well as the governments of many countries in the world.

However, Washington is doing all it can to thwart the solution of the pressing issues of our times. The actions of the U.S. Administration and its NATO allies in Western Europe are particularly sinister.

According to some specialists' estimates, the concentration of combat units and military hardware in Europe is already 20 times the average for the planet. Meanwhile, the question of almost 600 more new U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles being deployed there on the basis of NATO's so-called "dual decision" of December 1979 is being practicality placed on the agenda. Preparations for their deployment are proceeding on a broadening scale. The Pentagon has requested Congress to allocate $148 million to the U.S. Air Force for preparatory work at five facilities in the FRG, Italy, Britain, Belgium and the Netherlands, where deployment of the new U. S. nuclear weapons is to start by the end of this year. Western Europe is thus being assigned the role of a nuclear arms dump, with all the consequences that that entails. What is staggering, however, is that there are politicians such as Mr Genscher in Bonn who state in all seriousness that "NATO's dual decision is a decision on disarmament!

No, the security of the countries and peoples of Europe and indeed the whole world can only be strengthened through resolute opposition to the initiation of a new round of the nuclear arms race in our continent. As the participants in the Conference of Secretaries for International and Ideological Questions of the Central Committees of the Socialist Countries' Communist and Workers Parties held in Moscow 14-15 March of this year stated, "the outcome of the struggle against the NATO plans to deploy new U.S. missiles in Western Europe is of decisive importance as regards the prospects for the development of events not only in Europe but throughout our planet."

Some circles in the West are still confident that the will of the United States and of some of its NATO allies can be imposed on the Soviet Union by "power diplomacy" and saber-rattling. But all the lessons of history show that diktat and coercion applied to the USSR have never yet brought success.

The U.S. writer R. Liston in his book "The USSR Not Only Did Not Grow Weaker, But on the Contrary Grew Stronger," after noting that for many decades the United States "had waged a militant, vehement struggle against communism," the author came to the conclusion: "Whatever may be said about the results of this policy in the past, it has now reached a stage where it is counterproductive and is extremely dangerous for the whole world."

Words of wisdom!

PIMEN SENDS OPEN LETTER TO PRESIDENT REAGAN

LD041757 Moscow TASS in English 1743 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Quotation marks as received]

[Text] New York April 4 TASS - Follows the full text of an open letter from His Holiness Pimen, patriarch of Moscow and all-Russia to Mr Ronald Reagan, President of the United States of America, published in the newspaper NEW YORK TIMES. The letter reads:

"His Excellency Mr Ronald Wilson Reagan

President of the United States of America

The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue

Washington, D.C. 20500, USA

From His Holiness Pimen, patriarch of Moscow and all Russia

Esteemed Mr President, this is not a custom for spiritual pastors to interfere in the affairs of the powers that be, but being guided by my conscience and concerned for peace on our sinful earth and good will among men (Lk.2,14) I thought it possible to address you with this open letter. I am deeply shocked and sincerely distressed with your recent public address at the 41st annual convention of the National Association of Evangelicals of the United States of America.

"Let me be frank with you. Your remarks, whether you wanted them or not, are quite far and away in letter and in spirit from the Gospel teaching proclaimed by our Lord and Savior to all people for all time. This teaching is the law for all good and genuine Christians and the more so for those who, as fate has willed, are given power to rule nations and states".

"It is with bitterness and grief in my heart that I read your belligerent calls which sow the seeds of hatred and hostility against my motherland and threaten peace all over the world. These calls are the more so sinful as they are wrapped in the attire of Christian morals. It is not me who should remind you, Mr President, of one of the greatest commandments of God, thou shalt not kill (Ex. 20,13). This commandment should be kept in the heart of every true Christian. It bears the great meaning of the gospel teaching, its love of fellow-men.

"Obeying this commandment we shall reach the blessed times proclaimed by Isaiah, the prophet of God, when the nations shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. (Is. 2, 4)."

"But you, Mr President, teach war in your remarks; you teach war against my nation and my motherland. Can one really be faithful to the commandment thou shalt not kill and at the same time speak about the possibility of a limited nuclear war, about total nuclear war, first nuclear strike, victory in a nuclear war and other criminal and sinful conceptions? War, war, war...and where is the place for thou shalt not kill, Mr President?

"I do not dare to think that you and your advisers are unaware of what you are doing, that you do not know that the nuclear weapons in our age, once set in action, can eliminate all living things on the earth.

But how then one can bring together your adherence to the Christian ethics and morals and persistent striving for inculcating in your fellow citizens the idea of admissibility and inevitability of a nuclear war, this nuclear armageddon (Rev. 16,16)?"

"You call yourself a staunch advocate of Christian values. But how can one reconcile it with the pathos of your remark in which you justified the production of ever new kinds of weapons capable of destroying not only these values but the earth itself on which the Son of God preached love to the neighbour. We live now in a difficult time when discord and conflicts among nations and states as well as poverty, hunger, and diseases are not yet overcome. Sophisticated technology and instruments created by the genius of man could have helped people to get rid of all these hardships and curses.

"But at the same time they can put the end to the human race. Therefore the responsibility of any state leader, and of the leaders of great powers in particular, is overwhelmingly high. The choice of life and good, death or evil (Deut. 30,15.19) for their nations and for the whole of humanity largely depends on them. And here I mean the responsibility for their words and actions as Christ taught us (Mt.15,11)."

"A word is also an action. And what sort of word is yours, Mr President? Being a Christian, you felt free to call our country an evil empire, the country with 280 million people, the country which had taken the full weight of the greatest battle against the Fascist hordes, the country which had never waged war against the United States and does not intend to lift up a sword against it in future.

"Can there be any ground to throw a stone (Jn. 8,7) at my country, to judge and censure our society as sad and bizarre chapter in human history?"

"Truth, and truth only should come out of the mouth of a Christian, the truth which brings love. It should multiply mutual trust and not distort the reality, says a statement of the Round Table Conference sponsored by the Working Committee of the World Conference -- Religious Worker for Saving the Sacred Gift of Life from Nuclear Catastrophe -- and held in Moscow earlier in March at the invitation of our church. A statement of the conference is called A Freeze in Nuclear Arms -- the turning point: A moral imperative and the economic reality. It states inter alia that the moral implications of the freeze are based on the understanding of life as a sacred gift, on the requirements of an international ethos. It implies moral responsibility of governments for a speedy implementation of the freeze. You demonstrated the opposite point of view in your remarks."

"The Soviet Union is a vast and multi-faceted country where people of various religions and non-believers live together in full harmony and respect the right of every man for freedom of conscience guaranteed by our constitution. In several years the Russian Orthodox Church is going to solemnly celebrate her one thousandth anniversary. She fulfils her salutary mission in accordance with church canons and traditions and without state interference into her life. The same is true for the other christian churches: (Georgian Orthodox Church, Armenian Apostolic Church, Roman Catholic Church, Evangelical Lutheran Churches, Baptist, Reformed, Methodist and other churches), also for religious boards of Muslims, Buddhists and Jewish communities."

"We, bishops, clergy and laity of the Russian Orthodox Church, enjoy full rights as citizens and patriots of our country. We wholeheartedly support the noble efforts of the Soviet State aimed at the prevention of a nuclear war; general and complete disarmament; and the establishment of the principle of peaceful coexistence in the relations among all states without any distinction. With all our hearts we approve of the great peacemaking actions of the Soviet State which promote the fulfilment of the Isaiah's prophecy. We seek it too, and make our possible contribution into the cause of the triumph of peace.

"We highly appreciate the positive response on the part of the religious circles of the United States of America. How could you infer in your remarks that our brothers and sisters in Christ allegedly wish to place their country in a position of military and moral inferiority? No, we are convinced that they want their country to be peaceloving, morally healthy and prospering. But they, like their brothers and sisters in Christ in the Soviet Union, seek to attain this not by force, to which you call, but through faith and reason. This is the only position and the sole force that are consonant with the teaching of Christ.

"The position of many believers in the USA with regard to problems of war and peace gives us encouraging support in our efforts. While witnessing their faithfulness to the highest values -- peace, justice, and security for the entire human family -- they resolutely come out against the senseless nuclear arms race, they demand that the power of the nucleus should be used creatively for the good of people and not for purposes of destruction. It is in this that they and we alike see the providential act of God. There is not a single person in our country benefitting from the production of lethal weapons, serving Mammon. There is no one who want to unleash war for the sake of the golden calf (3 Kings,28,32).

"We, Soviet citizens and patriots, want to live in peace and friendship with all peoples and states. And you, Mr President, take a great sin upon your soul when you speak about a horrible Soviet threat. There has been no such threat."

"Mr President, you did say many harsh, unjust and even insulting words about our motherland. May the Lord be your judge.

"Dear Mr President, this letter is motivated by the anxiety for the fortunes of the world that largely depends on the character of relations between our great states, on the soundness of trust and respect between our great nations. My motherland does not harbour a grudge for anybody: There is an olive branch in her hands. You undoubtedly know how many peace proposals were put forward by my country, the proposals without any threat of war, but aimed at the good of the whole world, unfortunately, your statements are of another, militaristic character. The participants in the mentioned round table conference addressed the governments of the USA and the USSR with an appeal to come to an agreement on the freeze of nuclear weapons before it is too late.

"Reiterating this appeal, I express my hope that my words would find understanding and response in your heart and soul. Mr President, let us remember that each of us at time is bound to give his answer to the Son of God for our service to the good of our neighbors. And for us, Christians, every man is the neighbour.

Respectfully, Pimen, patriarch of Moscow and all Russia
Moscow March 28, 1983"

ZORIN SAYS U.S. POLITICAL STYLE 'RUDE, TACTLESS'

LD031236 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Text] We now present Moscow viewpoint by Valentin Zorin.

The ancient Romans used to say that if Jupiter was angry he was not right. I agree that when people lose their temper it is often because they cannot prove their point with reasonable arguments so they raise their voice and become quarrelsome. Political insults, the violation of age-old traditions and unwritten laws about relations between nations and statesmen are unfortunately becoming the political style of the current leaders in Washington. They have no qualms about making official statements that insult other countries and their leaders.

This is something new that has been introduced to international diplomacy by the current administration. We could ignore it, attribute it to bad manners if it were just a matter of form, a style that did not reflect the content of political viewpoints. I believe that national arrogance is behind the unseemly rude manner in which administration officials address other countries. The United States feels it is morally and materially superior to the whole world and so Washington sees no need to watch how it expresses its views. But the truth of the matter is that the United States is not morally nor in any other way superior. The opinions it voices are nothing more than opinions. They do not have to be adopted by others.

Washington is certainly trying to deal with the Soviet Union in the same manner. Disregarding basic and necessary courtesy in relations between States, the leaders in Washington say the Soviet people have an evil system that must be eliminated. But if the President and his advisers really believe what they say, if the aim of their policy is to get rid of Marxism-Leninism, the ideology of the Soviet Union, and to throw it away on the garbage heap of history as Mr Reagan said publicly in London just a few months ago, then how can there be Soviet-American talks on vitally important problems? What can the Soviet people think about the statements in the White House about wanting to reach a just solution to controversial issues if the head of the administration systematically claims that the problems in relations with the Soviet Union are not caused by political differences but the opposition of the Soviet Union, which represents evil, to President Reagan, who represents good? Surely Americans would not appreciate it if Soviet leaders made a statement discrediting George Washington, the founding father of the United States, or the American Declaration of Independence. So why do the current leaders in Washington insult the memory of the founder of the Soviet state Vladimir Lenin and debase the ideas that for millions of Soviet people are valued as highly as Americans value the Declaration of Independence?

But the leaders in Washington are not only rude and tactless in their political styles, they also break another unwritten rule of statesmanship. It is unfortunate when the mass media juggles with facts but it is inexcusable when leaders in positions of utmost responsibility resort to overt lies. There have been many instances when the current leaders in Washington have flagrantly distorted the truth and deliberately lied to the public. That was the case in the most recent statements made by President Reagan about Soviet policy.

This is what the Soviet Leader Yuriy Andropov referred to this week in an interview with the Soviet national daily PRAVDA when he said the question arises: What are the President's ideas about the code of behavior in dealing with other countries? In the Soviet Union, in contrast to the United States, we avoid personal criticism of politicians in other countries and if this time the Soviet leader was forced to criticize it was because he was voicing Soviet public opinion. If the leaders in Washington are prepared for a businesslike and constructive dialogue with the Soviet Union, then they should not be tactless and rude and not use impermissible methods of political polemics. And if they are not ready for talks, then they should stop acting as though they are and take responsibility for the futility of a dialogue.

U.S. SPACE DEFENSE SYSTEM ALREADY DRAWN UP

LD041640 Moscow TASS in English 1446 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Washington April 4 TASS -- TASS correspondent Yevgeniy Yegorov reports:

The U.S. militarists are intensifying work to design new systems of weapons for war in outer space. Caspar Weinberger, U.S. Defence Secretary, announced the setting up of an executive committee to study various versions of an anti-ballistic missile system (ABM). The committee, which is headed by Paul Thayer, U.S. first deputy secretary of defence, includes General John Vessey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and other high-ranking Pentagon officials.

Commenting on that report, the newspaper "WASHINGTON TIMES" points out that one of such ABM programmes code-named "Height Frontier" has been drawn up for two years now by a team of experts headed by retired Lieutenant-General Daniel Graham, former director of the Defence Intelligence Agency.

Albeit that group is considered to be a "private" one and is financed by Robert Skiff, a big publisher, it includes as an "unofficial observer" Colonel L. Montulli, a representative of the White House. To give technical assistance, arms manufacturing corporations "Boeing Aerospace", "Aerojet-General Corporation" and SRI assigned their leading experts to the team.

A preliminary report of the group was analyzed in 1982 by experts of the "Boeing" company, after which Goldy, the vice-president of the company, briefed Keyworth and U.S. Defence Undersecretary Richard Delauer on the results of the analysis.

The "Height Frontier" programme provides for the creation of a network of 432 satellites in outer space, each of which will have from 40 to 50 missiles to hit nuclear targets. The programme, D. Graham said, will be worth 15 billion dollars, but according to the estimates of the Pentagon experts, it will cost at least 50 billion dollars.

TASS NOTES U.S. SPACE SHUTTLE LAUNCHING

LD042338 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1925 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] New York, 4 Apr (TASS) -- TASS correspondent Vladimir Mostovets reports: After more than a 2-month delay the first launching of the U.S. reusable spaceship "Challenger" with four astronauts on board took place today. This is the second ship of the "shuttle" series. Its predecessor "Columbia" is now undergoing modification and improvement following five space flights. The launch of the "Challenger" was initially planned for the end of January, but it was often delayed because of numerous malfunctions in its engines system. Its 5-day program includes, in particular, putting a communications satellite into orbit and a space walk by two astronauts.

It is considered that the "Challenger" like the "Columbia" before it will be widely used for the militarization of space. As THE NEW YORK TIMES reports, four launchings of the spaceship "Challenger" were planned this year. One of its flights planned for December will be entirely controlled by the Pentagon and will be carried out within the framework of its secret military program.

O'NEILL MEETS ZHAO ZIYANG; PROBLEMS 'PERSIST'

PM012035 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 Apr 83 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "U.S. Congressmen in PRC"]

[Text] Beijing, 1 Apr (TASS) -- A delegation of U.S. congressmen headed by T. O'Neill, speaker of the House of Representatives, has been on a visit to the PRC. It was received at the National People's Congress Standing Committee, by Premier of the PRC State Council Zhao Ziyang, by PRC Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian and by Chairman of the CPC Central Advisory Council Deng Xiaoping. Problems of bilateral relations were discussed, including the export of Chinese textiles to the United States and the granting to China of modern American equipment and the latest technology.

Judging by O'Neill's statement at a press conference for foreign journalists and by items in the Chinese press, the persisting disagreements made themselves apparent in the talks, despite the desire shown to narrow the gap between the sides' positions. In an article headlined "two-faced behavior," with reference to the American-Chinese contradictions over the Taiwan issue, China daily emphasizes that despite the repeated U.S. statements that the Taiwan issue is China's internal affair, Washington is continuing its attempts to dictate its terms for a solution of the problem. It is continuing to treat Taiwan as a "very reliable ally" of the United States. At the same time Zhao Ziyang emphasized that in the "long term" he is optimistic about the development of relations between Beijing and Washington and he called on the American Congress to play a "positive role" in this.

TASS SAYS NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN JAPAN DESPITE DENIAL

LD041645 Moscow TASS in English 1414 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Moscow April 4 TASS -- TASS political news analyst Boris Chekhonin writes:

Many commentators have assessed the statement made by the Japanese Prime Minister Nakasone at a press conference at Fukuoka in which he denied the presence of American nuclear weapons on Japan's territory as putting a good face on the matter.

There are good reasons for such an appraisal. It is an open secret that the Pentagon has already long been violating Japan's three known "non-nuclear principles." The Japanese press has repeatedly reported on the presence of nuclear weapons in the American military bases in Okinawa. On the other hand, Edwin Reischauer, a former American ambassador to Tokyo, admitted way back in 1981 that there had been a secret verbal understanding between the United States and Japan that the American ships and planes with nuclear weapons on board could call at the ports and land on the airfields of Japan. An evidence of the practical character of such an understanding, is in particular, the recent call at Sasebo of an American naval squadron with the strike aircraft carrier "Enterprise" at its head.

As retired Rear Admiral Gene Larocque, an American military expert admitted there had been at least 200 units of nuclear weapons on board the "Enterprise" and the ships escorting it. True, the Japanese official representative was trying to refute the presence of such weapons in American ships. But where did they go, one may ask? As the "Enterprise" and other ships had taken part in "Team Spirit-83" exercises, which were held off the shores of the Korean peninsula under the so-called "nuclear warfare conditions," prior to calling at Japan.

Official Tokyo's connivance with the American nuclear ambitions is also seen from the consent of the Japanese Government to the deployment in the north of Honshu of American "F-16" fighter-bombers capable of carrying nuclear weapons. As a spokesman for the National Defence Agency admitted, these aircraft are designed for carrying out offensive operations. Also known is Nakasone's recent statement in parliament on the role of the Japanese Armed Forces in the light of the security treaty.

Japan, he said, will cooperate in building up the U.S. military potential, which is assigned the role of an offensive spear in the West's strategy in the Far East. It is an open secret that this American "offensive potential" is, above all, a nuclear one. All of these actions, along with the statement by the Japanese premier, on the determination to turn his country into an "unsinkable aircraft carrier" is evidence of the fact that the point at issue is a further drawing of Japan into the global, above all, nuclear strategy of the USA in that region.

The Japanese prime minister would be well-advised to think where such a risky policy can lead his country, rather than try to refute what has become obvious now. This policy can only lead to the brink of a nuclear catastrophe, to a sharp aggravation of international tensions in the region contrary to Japan's national interests. They in Tokyo should understand that the Soviet Union, the socialist countries of Asia will not remain indifferent to the plans of further drawing Japan into the nuclear strategy of the USA. In this connection one cannot but agree with the Japanese newspaper MAINICHI. The prime minister, it pointed out the other day, should remember that a policy, which is deprived of popular support, is doomed to a failure, even if it is welcomed in Washington." [quotemarks as received]

U.S. AIDING PAKISTAN'S NUCLEAR PROGRAM

LD011822 Moscow in English to South and Southeast Asia 1400 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Text] The FRANCE PRESSE news agency has reported, with reference to American intelligence services, that despite stubborn denials by the Pakistani President Ziaul Haq, Pakistan is seeking to have its own nuclear arms. More from our observer, Ivan Garbuzov, and this is what he writes:

CIA analysts studying Pakistan's nuclear program warned as early as in the seventies at various hearings of American Senate committees, that Pakistan was developing its own nuclear bomb. But Pakistan reached the doorstep of the nuclear club even earlier in 1954, when it bought its first nuclear reactor from the United States. As a result Pakistan got an opportunity to produce the initial raw material for military nuclear research, plutonium. Simultaneously, Pakistani nuclear physicists went to the United States and other Western countries for training.

One hundred and forty of them were trained in the United States alone. Leading Pakistani experts brushed up their techniques in Western laboratories to be able to supervise the implementation of Islamabad's nuclear program. Pakistan's purchases of raw materials and equipment for carrying out military nuclear research were no secret for American senators.

With the connivance of the western countries, the United States above all, Pakistan has got hold of the equipment and of the entire technology of the enrichment of uranium, used by the West European (?Urenco) consortium. What is more, American massive military aid package of $3 billion allows Pakistan to allocate additional sums for its nuclear program.

Pakistan has embarked on the building of a nuclear reactor with the capacity of 60 megawatts. It plans to build 10 more similar reactors in the future. A plant for the enrichment of uranium, built in the Pakistani town of Kahuta, has reached its projected capacity. Foreign experts have estimated that no less than 20 kg of pure plutonium have been produced at the nuclear reactor at Kanupp near Karachi.

In Baluchistan Province, a land mine has been built where underground nuclear tests can be carried out. The development of the military nuclear industry has already cost the Pakistani people more than $2 billion. But the economic sacrifice is only part of the pay. By rendering to Pakistan massive military assistance and shutting their eyes to the military aspect of the Pakistani nuclear program, Washington officials obviously hope to get something in return.

It is no accident that Pakistani authorities react favorably to the American intention to get hold of military bases in Pakistani territory. They have already agreed to have in Pakistan three American electronic surveillance stations and other military installations expected to be used by the American Central Command. As newspapers report, negotiations are underway over the establishment on Pakistani territory of munition storages for the American Rapid Deployment Force. Feasability studies are underway near Karachi and the port of Gwadar to determine if the American naval force can have bases there.

In short, Pakistan is being drawn more and more in large-scale military preparations of the United States in South-West Asia and the Indian Ocean area. These preparations are in line with the new global military doctrine of President Reagan, spearheaded against the socialist community countries with the Soviet Union at the head, and against other sovereign states.

USSR-INDIAN PLANNING GROUP MEETS IN NEW DELHI

LD311235 Moscow TASS in English 1110 GMT 31 Mar 83

[Text] New Delhi March 31 TASS -- The Soviet-Indian group for planning has held its seventh meeting in the Indian capital to discuss expansion in bilateral cooperation in the planning of the national economies. The session, which ended on Thursday, was held in line with the Soviet-Indian declarations signed by the leaders of the two countries on 1980 and 1982 and a long-term program of developing Soviet-Indian cooperation in the economy, trade, science and technology.

The group examined such issues of mutual interest as the planning of the fuel-and-energy complex, regional planning, the development and effective use of railroad transport, the development of irrigation and rational use of water resources.

Leader of the Indian delegation Professor A.M. Khusro, a member of India's planning committee, pointed out at the session that the group's activities were purposeful and constructive and had already went beyond its original scope. He noted the importance of cooperation in planning as an element of bilateral economic relations, which made a weighty contribution to further strenghtening friendship between the Indian and Soviet peoples.

A protocol signed at the session's conclusion determined new spheres of mutually beneficial cooperation between the two countries in the field of planning. The protocol was signed for the Indian side by A.M. Khusro and for the Soviet side by leader of the USSR delegation Professor Aleksandr Bachurin, a deputy chairman of the State Planning Committee of the USSR.

AUCCTU, DRA TU SIGN COOPERATION AGREEMENT

LD011140 Moscow TASS in English 1218 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Text] Moscow April 1 TASS -- An agreement on the development of friendly relations and cooperation between the USSR Central Council of Trade Unions (AUCCTU), and the Central Council of Trade Unions of Afghanistan has been signed here today. The signatures under the agreement have been put by Stepan Shalayev, AUCCTU chairman, and Abdol Sattar Purdeli, chairman of the trade unions of Afghanistan.

The agreement says that the trade unions of the two countries have expressed full support for the fresh peace initiatives of the USSR and the other socialist countries aimed at improving the political situation in Europe and lessening international tensions. The document expresses solidarity with the just struggle of the Arab peoples in defence of their legitimate national rights and interests. The trade unions of the USSR and the DRA have strongly condemned the criminal Zionist aggression in Lebanon, which was launched with the direct support of the U.S. imperialists.

The agreement expresses support for the proposals spelled out at the Seventh Non-Aligned Summit Conference on the turning of the Indian Ocean into a peace zone. In that connection the trade unions of the two countries are expressing alarm over the decision of the U.S. Administration to set up a so-called "Central Command," which will become a direct threat to the independence development of the Indian Ocean and the Persian Gulf countries.

The delgations have expressed full support for the people and Government of Afghanistan in their struggle in defence of the revolutionary gains and declared for a political settlement of the situation around the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, which can be achieved through putting an end to interference from the outside in the affairs of that sovereign non-aligned state.

ASIA WEEK EXPRESSES SOLIDARITY WITH AFGHAN PEOPLE

LD050826 Moscow TASS in English 0638 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Text] Moscow April 5 TASS -- "The Pentagon threatens the entire Asian continent. The Central U.S. Command for South-West Asia (Centcom) set up by the Pentagon recently has a sphere of operations embracing a vast region from the Horn of Africa to Pakistan, including the zone of the Persian Gulf. The Pentagon's jumping-off ground in the region is a network of military bases and strongholds -- in all, about 25 such installations where some 140,000 U.S. servicemen are stationed. In addition to this the United States managed to win "right of access" to 21 more military installations in a number of the countries of the region, the newspaper SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA writes in conjunction with the Asia Week, beginning today.

The experience of holding the Asia Week in the past years has shown that actions for the demilitarisation of the Indian Ocean are some of its central functions. Eased-off tensions in that region should be sought along the lines of the implementation of the proposal of the coastal states for turning the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace.

The Asia Week is also a campaign of solidarity with the Afghan people who are getting ready to mark the 5th anniversary of the April revolution. In the past five years the Afghan people have scored no small successes in building a new life. Here one may speak of the agrarian reform the gradual elimination of almost one hundred percent illiteracy, the establishment of a public health infrastructure, and many other things.

But one has to bear in mind a different thing. Already now Afghans could have reached much more impressive results, if they had not been prevented from doing so. At present there are more than 70 special bases in Pakistan where anti-Afghan formations are being assembled, trained and equipped under the supervision of U.S. instructors.

Washington's anti-Afghan stance reflects, as in a mirror, the meaning of its policy toward the developing states. As soon as the developments in one or another country take a turn in a direction which does not suit the White House, covert and overt subversive operations against that country begin.

The present Asia Week is called upon to promote stronger peace and stability, the development of trust and mutual understanding in the continent.

OBSTACLES TO SOUTHEAST ASIA SETTLEMENT NOTED

PM312151 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 1 Apr 83 Morning Edition p 4

[V. Ganshin "International Commentary:" "Southeast Asia: They Are Forcing Confrontation"]

[Text] A meeting between representatives of ASEAN and the EEC at the foreign minister level was held in Bangkok in the last week of March. It was preceded by consultations between the Thai, Malaysian, Singapore, Indonesian and Philippine ministers during which the question of holding regional talks in connection with the so-called "Kampuchea question" was discussed.

These consultations showed that there is no single opinion among the members of the "five" on what common stance should be adopted on the problem in question. In particular, Indonesia and Malaysia, so the press reports, are more inclined to hold talks with Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea than to continue to pursue a rigid confrontation with them. Thus Indonesia's SINAR HARAPAN expressed the hope of "the creation of an atmosphere of cooperation" in Southeast Asia and the achievement of a "balance of security interests between the Indochina states and the ASEAN countries."

However, unfortunately there are forces that are seeking to prevent a settlement of the regional problems and are continuing to sow strife and mistrust among the Southeast Asian countries, thereby delaying the normalization of the situation in the region. Characteristically, the main directors of this scenario are external forces -- primarily Washington and Beijing, and also certain West European states. In the course of the 2-day ASEAN-EEC talks held in the Thai capital, the Western representatives clearly intimated their unwillingness to settle the situation in Southeast Asia by means of political consultations, resorting in order to justify their position to the anti-Vietnamese and anti-Soviet insinuations customary in such cases. Using economic levers, they hope not only to straighten out their own affairs by obtaining raw materials that are in short supply relatively cheaply from Southeast Asia but also to exert political pressure on the countries of the "five" in their pursuit of regional policy, particularly over the implementation of dialogue with the Indochina states. This dependence -- economic and political -- of the ASEAN countries does not accord with the Asian states' long-term national interests and hampers the solution of Southeast Asia's problems and its transformation into a zone of peace and stability.

A way out of the impasse could be to adopt the proposals voiced at the recent meeting in Vientiane by the supreme leaders of the three Indochina countries. As is well known, the meeting not only demonstrated the sincere desire of the SRV, Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] and People's Republic of Kampuchea [PRK] to seek ways for a political solution of the accumulated problems, but also clearly showed the three fraternal countries' strengthening unity and the irreversibility of the processes taking place in them, despite the intrigues of imperialism and reaction. Expressing the good will for a normalization of the situation in Southeast Asia and wishing to help strengthe trust in this part of the world, the SRV and the PRK reached agreement on a new partial and step-by-step withdrawal of Vietnam's volunteer troops from Kampuchea and reaffirmed the earlier initiatives on concluding nonaggression treaties with China and the ASEAN countries and holding an international conference on Southeast Asia to solve the region's problems.

The results of the Vientiane meeting, the first at such a high level, have evoked a widespread response and positive assessments not only in the socialist countries, but also among the broad public of the nonaligned states, including in ASEAN.

The local press, commenting favorably on these proposals, has noted the flexibility and constructive approach of the SRV, LPDR and PRK toward the questions under examination, rightly seeing them as the foundation on which it is possible to solve the regional problems while taking into account the national interests of all Southeast Asian states and on the basis of the principles of mutual equality and businesslike cooperation.

However, the official circles of certain ASEAN countries, egged on my external forces, are continuing the course of confrontation, regardless of the urgent need to hold a dialogue among all the sides really concerned under conditions of no external interference. The arming of the bandit formations of Pol Pot holdouts entrenched in regions of Thailand bordering Kampuchea continues, the provocations against the SRV and the LPDR, and also on the PRK's borders, continue, and the puppet "coalition government of Kampuchea," which represents nobody, is being publicized. All this, quite clearly, cannot help normalize the situation in Southeast Asia and creates new obstacles in the way of a fair solution of the regional problems that accord [plural as published] with the vital interests of the peoples of the Asian Continent.

CHEYSSON'S HANOI REMARKS ON KAMPUCHEA NOTED

PM311543 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Mar 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Exchange of Opinions"]

[Excerpts] Hanoi, 29 Mar -- Pham Van Dong, chairman of the SRV Council of Ministers, has received C. Cheysson, French minister of external relations, who is in the SRV on an official visit.

Characterizing the results of the talks, SRV Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach stated at a press conference here that Vietnam's and France's positions regarding the situation in Southeast Asia have "much in common, although there are certain differences."

France advocates a settlement in Southeast Asia to guarantee the Kampuchean people's self-determination and their neighbors' security. C. Cheysson said at the press conference "Nobody disputes that Vietnam plays an important part in Kampuchea's present and future destiny. France believes the Kampuchean people, like any other, have the right to freedom of choice." "We do not want the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea to lead to the risk of the repetition of the historically unprecedented horrors which took place there during the years of the Pol Potites' domination," the French minister stated. "We will never have relations with any grouping which includes those to blame for the bloody tragedy in Kampuchea."

C. Cheysson also said that the situation in Kampuchea is not a matter of indifference to Vietnam and the SRV has an interest in guarantees of its own security. He stressed that "only with the SRV's participation is the free self-determination for the Kampuchean people, which we all want, possible."

PRAVDA CITES SPK ON AIMS OF INDOCHINA STATES

PM011115 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 31 Mar 83 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Desire for Stability"]

[Text] Phnom Penh, 30 Mar -- The unchanging, consistent course of the three Indochinese countries lies in the striving for peace, stability, friendship and cooperation in Southeast Asia, says a commentary issued here by the Kampuchean News Agency SPK.

This is the spirit in which their repeated proposals, in particular at the conference of the top SRV, Lao and Kampuchean leaders in Vientiane, for the conclusion of a treaty on nonaggression and the normalization of relations with the ASEAN countries on the basis of the principles of peaceful coexistence and the holding of an international conference to settle regional issues should be regarded.

PRK ISSUES PROTEST AGAINST PRC ARMS FOR KHMERS

LD011142 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 2 Apr 83 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "PRK Foreign Ministry Protest"]

[Text] Phnom Penh April 1 TASS -- The Foreign Ministry of the People's Republic of Kampuchea has expressed a protest in connection with the arms supplies by China to Khmer reactionary groupings, which entrenched themselves in Thailand's territory.

After the overthrow of the Pol Pot genocide regime and the founding of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, the statement says, Peking has permanently rendered and continues rendering both moral and material support for the bloody Pol Pot clique. Apart from that, the traitors of the Khmer people are instigated to subversive actions against People's Kampuchea, other countries of Indochina in an attempt to create a situation of instability in Southeast Asia and prevent the development of the trend for a dialogue which is strengthening in the region.

The Foreign Ministry of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, the statement of protest says, demands an end to the arms supplies to the Khmer emigre reaction. Those who supply arms to the criminal genocide clique and those who give refuge to it on their territory, shall bear full responsibility for the consequences of these actions.

NHAN DAN LASHES THAILAND, PRC OVER KAMPUCHEA

PM051027 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 Apr 83 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "They Got What They Deserved"]

[Text] Hanoi, 4 Apr -- In the last few days People's Republic of Kampuchea Armed Forces have inflicted deserved punishment on Pol Pot bandits on Kampuchean territory, exercising the lawful and inalienable right of an independent sovereign country, the right to defend the millions of Kampucheans who have known the calamities of genocide, the newspaper NHAN DAN, the organ of the Vietnam Communist Party [VCP] Central Committee, writes.

The attacks on Vietnam from Washington, Beijing and Bangkok are only fueling tension in Vietnamese-Thai relations and undermining the peaceful dialogue between the Southeast Asian countries. Everyone knows, NHAN DAN writes, that the U.S. imperialists and reactionary forces are feeding and arming the Pol Pot gangs and other counterrevolutionary gangs conducting subversive activity against the People's Republic of Kampuchea and preventing the easing of tension on the Thai-Kampuchean border.

China recently shipped weapons for the Khmer reactionaries by sea via Thailand for them to prepare for new criminal actions in the forthcoming rainy season. Thai and Chinese military advisers, the newspaper writes, are training Khmer counterrevolutionaries at a number of camps on the Thai-Kampuchean border. The Thai authorities have acted in an extremely unseemly fashion by giving refuge to Pol Pot supporters and enabling them to commit crimes on Kampuchean soil.

The peace initiatives of the three Indochina countries put forward at the summit meeting in Vientiane, the VCP Central Committee organ notes, accord with the Southeast Asian peoples' desire to resolve regional problems through dialogue. Far-sighted, sane figures cannot fail to respond to this plea. Dialogue is more useful than confrontation, NHAN DAN stresses in conclusion.

USSR LABOR DEPUTY ON VIETNAMESE TRAINING

LD011352 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0925 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Text] Moscow, 1 Apr (TASS) -- Already almost all of the young Vietnamese who came to Soviet enterprises in 1981-82 have mastered their relevant vocations and, working side-by-side with Soviet colleagues in mixed brigades, they are continuing to perfect the skills they have received. This was reported to a TASS correspondent by deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee for Labor and Social Problems, Leonid Kostin, on the occasion of the second anniversary of the signing of the Soviet-Vietnamese intergovernmental agreement on the dispatch and reception of Vietnamese citizens for vocational training and work at enterprises and organizations of the USSR.

Having successfully mastered one vocation, he noted, some of the Vietnamese workers go on to master a second, related vocation at the same enterprise. Such cases are most frequent in the textile and chemical industries.

"In the current year," continued Leonid Kostin, "the 11,200 envoys from Vietnam already working with us will be joined by another 7,000 or so. As in previous years, this figure was worked out by both sides, taking into consideration the present and future requirements of the national economy of the SRV for certain vocations. For example, the fraternal country's motor transport has an acute need for skilled repair masters. For this purpose a group of Vietnamese will soon go to the Volga motor works in the town of Tolyatti where they will master, among other things, the vocation of engine assembly."

In the current year, continued Leonid Kostin, there will be a qualitative expansion of the list of vocations being mastered by young Vietnamese in the USSR to include a number of new ones requiring high degrees of skill. In addition to the Volga motor works, envoys from Vietnam are to master these vocations at modern enterprises involved in mining machinery manufacture, tractor and agricultural machinery manufacture and housing construction combines. The last category is especially topical for the SRV, where a complex of construction industry enterprises is being created at an accelerated rate.

Naturally, continued Leonid Kostin, the increase in the number of Vietnamese citizens coming to the USSR for vocational training and work, as well as the increase in the vocations they are mastering, also means an expansion in the geography of their deployment. This year for the first time guests from Vietnam will be received by works and factories of Poltava, Chernigov and other Ukrainian cities, as well as Pskov and Novgorod. "The main emphasis in deployment is still being placed on the southern regions of the European part of the USSR," he pointed out.

Pointing to the lack of foundation in attempts by the West, particularly the United States, to slander the new form of Soviet-Vietnamese collaboration, Leonid Kostin stressed: "The claims by the U.S. State Department that a 'considerable number of these workers are engaged in manual labor' has nothing in common with the truth. I emphasize the fact that it is a matter of training highly-skilled cadres for the Vietnamese economy, a project in which other member countries of CEMA are taking part as well as the USSR. The past 2 years have strengthened our conviction in the future of the course taken."

SRV LABOR MINISTRY DENIES SOVIET EXPLOITATION

OW031145 Moscow in Vietnamese to Vietnam 1000 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Text] Dear listeners: On the occasion of the second anniversary of the signing of the USSR-Vietnam treaty on the training of Vietnamese workers at Soviet factories and enterprises, we invite you to listen, to the following statement, from an interview [unspecified; undated], with SRV Vice Minister of Labor Nguyen Van Diep.

[Begin Nguyen Van Diep recording] The enemies of Vietnam and the Soviet Union are striving to undermine the solidarity, friendship, and all-round cooperation between Vietnam and the Soviet Union. They have advanced distorted reports and slanderous allegations about Soviet exploitation of Vietnamese labor -- a work force 500,000-strong, including a number of Vietnamese laborers and prisoners who are working on the Siberia-West Europe gas pipeline and who are forced to live in special concentration camps. How odious these slanders are!

On behalf of the SRV Labor Ministry, I reject and condemn these wrongful allegations. The 11,000 Vietnamese citizens [coong daan] who are learning trades and working at Soviet enterprises have enjoyed and are enjoying all the rights and privileges as specified in the treaty signed between Vietnam and the Soviet Union, and are living in friendship with Soviet workers and people. The allegation about the so-called special concentration camps for Vietnamese laborers and prisoners working on the Siberia-West Europe gas pipeline is just a trick, an odious slander.

Despite the frenzied sabotage schemes and acts of the enemies of Vietnam and the Soviet Union, the labor cooperation between Vietnam and the Soviet Union continues to develop, because this is a new developmental step, a new form of cooperation within the framework of the all-round cooperation between Vietnam and the Soviet Union, based on the spirit of the Vietnam-USSR friendship and cooperation treaty, signed on 3 November 1978.

The labor cooperation treaty, signed between Vietnam and the Soviet Union on 2 April 1981, after a period of implementation, has proved the effectiveness of training skilled workers according to the method of learning trades while engaging in productive labor and carrying out productive labor while honing professional skills. The fine image of the Vietnamese youths living, studying and working along with Soviet workers have, and will further consolidate, the inherent solidarity and friendship and the time-honored traditions between the Vietnamese and Soviet peoples. [end recording]

ARKHIPOV RECEIVES PHILIPPINE TRADE MINISTER

PM281451 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Mar 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Minister Received"]

[Text] I.V. Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, received R. Ongpin, Philippine minister of industry and trade, on 23 March and had a talk with him.

USTINOV ON 'OFFICIAL, FRIENDLY VISIT' TO GDR

Departs for GDR 5 Apr

LD050710 Moscow TASS in English 0650 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Text] Moscow April 5 TASS -- A Soviet military delegation headed by member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Soviet Defence Minister Marshal of the Soviet Union Dmitriy Ustinov today left Moscow for Berlin for an official friendly visit at the invitation of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and the State Council of the German Democratic Republic.

The delegation was seen off at the airport by member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, First Deputy Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Geydar Aliyev, and other officials.

Aliyev, Others at Send-Off

LD050800 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0630 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Text] A Soviet military delegation headed by Marshal of the Soviet Union Ustinov, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Minister of Defense, left Moscow for Berlin today on an official friendly visit at the invitation of the Central Committee.

The delegation was seen off at the airport by Aliyev, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; Bugayev, minister of civil aviation; Marshal of the Soviet Union Kulikov, USSR first deputy minister of defense and commander in chief of the Joint Armed Forces of the Warsaw Treaty member-states; Marshal of the Soviet Union Sokolov, USSR first deputy minister of defense; Army General Yepishev, chief of the Central Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and navy; deputy ministers of defense of the USSR, and other officials. Winkelmann, GDR ambassador in the USSR, was among those seeing them off.

Arrives in Berlin

LD050851 Moscow TASS in English 0833 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Text] Berlin April 5 -- TASS -- A Soviet military delegation headed by member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Soviet Defense Minister Dmitriy Ustinov arrived in Berlin today for an official friendly visit.

East German Coverage

For East German reportage on the official visit to the GDR by USSR Minister of Defense Marshal Dmitriy Ustinov, see the German Democratic Republic Section of the 5 April issue of the Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

DEPUTY MINISTER MARKS HUNGARIAN ANNIVERSARY

LD012116 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1505 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Text] Moscow, 1 Apr (TASS) -- Soviet-Hungarian friendship and cooperation are constantly deepening and faithfully serve the cause of socialism and peace, Nikolay Danilin, a USSR deputy minister [of the Medical Industry Ministry] and deputy chairman of the Central Board of the Soviet-Hungarian Friendship Society, said today at a festive gathering devoted to the 38th anniversary of the liberation of Hungary from Fascism.

It is difficult to find an area of life in which the USSR and Hungary do not carry out a fruitful exchange of experience in socialist and communist construction, Nikolay Danilin said. Economic cooperation between the two countries gives weighty results and makes possible the joint effective resolution of national economy tasks.

The USSR satisfies a significant portion of Hungary's import needs in energy-producing materials, iron ore and other raw materials, he continued. In turn, Hungary delivers gantry cranes, 'Ikarus' buses, machinery and equipment, and agricultural, light and food industry products, to the Soviet Union.

Talking about cooperation between the two countries in the field of science and technology, Nikolay Danilin noted that scientists of both countries are jointly working on problems in such most important industries as nuclear power engineering, the transmission of electricity, mining work, the oil refining industry and ferrous metallurgy. The deputy minister stressed that the USSR, Hungary and other socialist community countries act as consistent peace champions, contrasting the militarist line of imperialism with a constructive course for peace, international security and detente.

Speaking at the gathering, Sandor Rajnai, Hungarian ambassador to the USSR, noted that strengthening friendship with the Soviet Union is one of the most important directions of Hungary's foreign policy. The ambassador highly appraised the activity of socialist countries, which is aimed at strengthening peace and the development of cooperation.

CPSU, USSR CONDOLENCES ON DEATH OF CSSR'S HULA

LD022252 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Text] In a telegram addressed to the Czechoslovak Communist Party [CPCZ] Central Committee and the CSSR Government the CPSU Central Committee and the Council of Ministers of the USSR have expressed deep condolences in connection with the untimely death of Vaclav Hula, member of the presidium of the CPCZ Central Committee and deputy chairman of the CSSR Government. They expressed sincere condolences to the relatives of the departed and those close to him.

FRANCE ORDERS 47 SOVIET OFFICIALS EXPELLED

NC050726 Paris AFP in English 0724 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Text] Paris, April 5 (AFP) -- France has ordered the expulsion of 47 Soviet diplomats and other officials, in the biggest intelligence clean-up recorded in Franco-Soviet relations, an informed source confirmed today.

The expulsion had initially been reported in today's editions of the leftist daily LIBERATION. The newspaper said that the 47 included the number three man at the Soviet Embassy, First Counsellor Nikolay Chetverikov and the head of the Soviet news agency TASS, Oleg Shirikov. One of those ordered expelled arrived only two weeks ago, the daily said.

The External Relations Ministry declined to comment on the article, but did not issue a denial. A Soviet Embassy spokesman also refused to comment, referring newsmen back to the French authorities.

LIBERATION said that the 47 and their families were only awaiting a plane to collect them.

The Soviet Embassy tried to see Premier Pierre Mauroy, but no meeting took place.

Last week Britain expelled two Soviet diplomats and a Soviet journalist on grounds they were engaged in spying activities.

Moscow 'Source' Confirms Expulsion

NC050843 Paris AFP in English 0838 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Text] Moscow, April 5 (AFP) -- France has ordered the expulsion of a large number of Soviet diplomats and officials, a well-informed Soviet source confirmed today. There was no immediate official Soviet confirmation of the expulsion order.

The Soviet source did not indicate the number involved but confirmed that TASS Paris Bureau Chief Oleg Shirikov and a second Soviet news agency collaborator were among those struck by the order.

(In Paris, reliable sources spoke of 47 diplomats and officials -- including the number three man at the embassy Nikolay Chetverikov -- expelled in the biggest intelligence clean-up recorded in Franco-Soviet relations.)

There was unlikely to be an immediate Soviet reaction to the expulsions until full information had been received here for the motives of the French action, a well-informed Soviet source added.

The same source said that it was not believed that the expulsions were due to the murder last February 15 near Nice, southern France, of French counter-intelligence agent Colonel Bernard Nut, nor that Paris wanted to show that it supported Washington over the Euromissiles issue, as this support had already been firmly stated.

Observers here pointed out that the expulsions could result in retaliatory action against French diplomats in Moscow.

The explusions could in any case worsen Franco-Soviet relations, judged cool here ever since socialist President Francois Mitterrand was elected in May, 1981. This coolness was in clear evidence when French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson paid an official visit here in February.

TASS Official Expresses Outrage

NC051025 Paris AFP in English 1020 GMT 5 Apr 83

[By Pierre Feuilly]

[Excerpts] Paris, April 5 (AFP) -- France has ordered the expulsion of 47 Soviet diplomats, journalists and other residents, in the biggest intelligence sweep in French-Soviet relations, an informed French source said today.

Oleg Shirokov, the TASS news agency bureau chief here and one of those ordered expelled, told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that the 47 would leave Paris today, aboard a special plane flown in from Moscow.

The expulsions of the Soviets had still not been announced officially by 11:30 a.m. today, although they were confirmed earlier by an informed source in Moscow.

The expulsions story was broken by the leftwing daily LIBERATION this morning which reported that one of the 47 Soviets was the embassy First Counsellor Nikolay Chetverikov and another Mr Shirokov.

Mr Shirokov, contacted by AFP, said: "It is an outrage to the journalist profession."

It was not known whether there were any links between the expulsions of three Soviets in London last week and a Soviet diplomat in Madrid last Friday. But it must be noted that Italy is also conducting extensive inquiries into the so-called "Bulgarian connection", which is involved in the failed assassination attempt against the pope in Rome in May, 1981. A number of Bulgarian officials are allegedly implicated.

Soviet Expellees Prepare To Depart

NC051102 Paris AFP in English 1055 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Text] Paris, April 5 (AFP) -- The Soviet Embassy here today "vigorously" protested at the "totally unfounded and arbitrary" expulsion order on 47 Soviet diplomats, journalists and other residents. In a statement issued at noon, the embassy said that it had not been notified of any "illegal activity" on the part of the 47 people who had been ordered to leave. It said the French Government would have to bear the "entire responsibility for the negative consequences" which the move would have on Franco-Soviet relations.

Meanwhile the French Foreign Ministry preserved total silence on the affair saying it had "no information" on the expulsions.

The director of the Soviet news agency TASS here, Oleg Shirokov, said earlier that the 47 and their families would leave on a special Soviet flight today, and a reliable source said an Ilyushin 86 landed at Charles de Gaulle Airport north of Paris at 0930 GMT. An hour later the plane was parked without any special security arrangements, but none of the expelled Russians appeared to have arrived at the airport. Sources expected the plane to take off at 1300 GMT.

The embassy statement read: "There has been no proof and no explanation, and there could be none because collaborators of Soviet missions in France only carry out, and have only carried out, their duties in the normal framework of developing Soviet-French relations.

"Therefore we come to the conclusion that the unprecedented expulsion of Soviet collaborators is linked to the French Government's political considerations without any connection with the work of the Soviet Embassy and other missions in France.

"The responsibility for the negative consequences of this action on relations between France and the Soviet Union rest wholly on the French side," the statement concluded.

Expelled Soviet residents and their families, many carrying flowers, left the Soviet Embassy at 1:37 p.m. (1137 GMT) aboard two coaches and six minibuses for the drive to Roissy Airport where a Soviet airliner had landed earlier today. Many embassy personnel waved them goodbye. Meanwhile, a group of about 12 expelled Soviets, with their wives and children, arrived there at 1:50 p.m. (1150 GMT) from another destination.

(In Moscow, the Soviet news agency TASS published the Soviet Embassy statement which "strongly" protested against the expulsions. The TASS item, datelined from Paris, was the first reference to the incident in the Soviet media.)

Soviet Embassy Protests Expulsions

LD051156 Moscow TASS in English 1146 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Text] Paris April 5 TASS -- The Embassy of the Soviet Union to France today circulated the following statement:

The embassy resolutely protests against the unjustified and arbitrary decision of the French authorities.

No facts of illegal actions by Soviet employees offered to leave France, no proof, no explanations have been given. There can be none, for the employees of Soviet institutions in France, aside from fulfilling their official functions directed at consolidating and developing Soviet-Franch relations, are not engaged, nor can be engaged in any other activity.

That is why we come to the conclusion that the unprecedented expulsion of the Soviet employees is connected with some political considerations of the French authorities which are unrelated to the work of the embassy and other Soviet missions in France.

All responsibility for the adverse consequences of this arbitrary action on the development of relations between France and the USSR rests, therefore, on the French side.

FINNISH FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES IN MOSCOW

Met by Talyzin

LD050639 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0600 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Text] Moscow, 5 April (TASS) -- A government delegation from the Finnish Republic arrived in Moscow today headed by Par Stenback, minister of foreign affairs.

The delegation will participate in the festivities devoted to the 35th anniversary of the treaty of friendship, cooperation and mutual aid between the two countries.

Nikolay Talyzin, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and other Soviet officials met the guests at the station, which was decorated by the state flags of the Finnish Republic and the Soviet Union.

Received by Gromyko

LD050902 Moscow TASS in English 0830 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Text] Moscow April 5 TASS -- Andrey Gromyko, member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR and minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, has received today Par Stenback, minister of foreign affairs of Finland, who leads a Finnish governmental delegation on a visit to the USSR to attend the celebrations of the 35th anniversary of the Soviet-Finnish Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance.

In the course of their conversation, which passed in an atmosphere of cordiality and mutual understanding, both sides spoke highly of the 1948 treaty, which has for 35 years now been reliable ensuring the advance of Soviet-Finnish relations on the road of friendship, trust and mutually beneficial cooperation.

Discussing international problems, Andrey Gromyko and Par Stenback stressed the need to invigorate the efforts of all the states to remove the threat of war and to preserve and promote international detente.

The sides believe that priority in the present-day complex international situation is attached to the task of ending the arms race and limiting and reducing both nuclear and conventional armaments. In this context Andrey Gromyko drew Par Stenback's attention to the new foreign policy initiatives of the Soviet Union and the other Warsaw Treaty member countries aimed at strengehtning peace and international security.

Andrey Gromyko and Par Stenback noted the importance of ensuring that all the participants in the Madrid meeting displayed constructive approach and political will for the early completion of that meeting with positive results. The sides attach special importance to the convocation of a conference on confidence-building measures, security and disarmament in Europe.

Both sides expressed readiness for further cooperation between the Soviet Union and Finland on the international scene for the solution of outstanding international problems, for strengthening peace in Europe and all over the world.

ROMANOV LEADS STATE DELEGATION TO FINLAND

LD050845 Moscow TASS in English 0822 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Text] Moscow April 5 TASS -- A Soviet governmental delegation left Moscow today to attend the celebrations of the 35th anniversary of the treaty of friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance between the Soviet Union and Finland.

The delegation is led by member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, member of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, First Secretary of the Leningrad regional committee of the CPSU Grigoriy Romanov. Other members of the delegation are: Chairman of the Soviet of the Union of the USSR Supreme Soviet Aleksey Shitikov, the USSR's Ambassador in Finland Vladimir Sobolev.

At the airport the delegation was seen off by Member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev, other officials.

DASHKOV ASSESSES SOVIET-FINNISH RELATIONS

LD042054 Moscow TASS in English 1959 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Moscow April 4 TASS -- Commentator Yuriy Dashkov writes: On April 6 the Soviet Union and Finland mark the 35th anniversary of the treaty of friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance which has become a foundation for peaceful and diverse ties between the two countries. The vital power of the principles and provisions recorded in that document has been confirmed over the 35 years by the historical practice of interstate relations. It has stood the test of time.

Today Soviet-Finnish relations are an example of ties between states with different social systems. They are characterised by a high degree of trust, constantly expanding contacts in the political, economic, cultural and other fields, and the joint work of the two countries for the benefit of peace and international security.

Over the years that have passed since the signing of the Soviet-Finnish treaty bilateral trade increased 45 times. At the present time the Soviet Union is Finland's chief trade partner, while Finland ranks second in Soviet trade with Western nations.

Over the years Soviet-Finnish relations have witnessed many interesting undertakings. New forms of contacts have been devised. One of the new forms of Soviet-Finnish cooperation is the joint construction of large industrial facilities. The Soviet Union rendered technical assistance to Finland in building an iron and steel works, two nuclear and several thermal power plants, and a gas pipeline. At the same time Finnish companies took part in re-building and expanding the Svetogorsk pulp and paper works in the Soviet Union. Currently Finnish firms participate in the construction of the Kostomuksha ore-dressing works and other industrial projects in the Soviet Union.

The main feature characterising trade and economic cooperation between the two countries is mutual benefit. Finnish economists have repeatedly stressed that cooperation with the Soviet Union, Soviet orders favorably influence Finland's economy, and promote higher employment in the country.

Regular meetings of the leaders of the two countries play a major role in developing Soviet-Finnish goodneighborly relations. Every such meeting gives a further impetus to bilateral relations and becomes a major step along the road of their further improvement. The present President of Finland Mauno Koivisto has more than once emphasised the paramount significance of the 1948 treaty. He visited the friendly Soviet Union several times. During the meetings that took place between Soviet and Finnish leaders, they voted that the Soviet-Finnish treaty was a major factor in strengthening peace and stability in northern Europe and that it accorded with the interests of stronger security and cooperation in Europe as a whole.

Today when U.S. imperialism is trying to draw European nations into its dangerous plans of kindling nuclear conflicts on the continent, the example of Soviet-Finnish relations is especially indicative. It shows convincingly that countries with different social systems can live in peace and friendship, and work together for the benefit of their people and for universal peace.

FRG CP LEADER MIES COMMENTS ON PEACE MARCHES

LD042105 Moscow TASS in English 2006 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Cologne April 4 TASS -- "The spring peace marches all over the FRG that ended today, the peace marches in which hundreds of thousands of people took part showed clearly the demand of the West German citizens to give up the deployment of new U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles on the country's territory. The peace marches have become a truly nationwide drive for peace and disarmament, against the nuclear missiles arms race and the policy of confrontation," chairman of the German Communist Party Herbert Mies said today at a press conference in Cologne.

A new feature in this year's mass manifestations was a wider participation of trade unions and a number of prominent leaders of the SDPG [German Social Democratic Party]. The new thing also is that the participants in the marches linked closely their slogans for peace and disarmament with the demands in the social sphere. There is a stronger interconnection between the struggle for peace and the struggle for the right to work in the FRG, Mies said.

The spring peace marches showed that the anti-war movement is gaining momentum in the FRG, said the chairman of the German Communist Party.

He said these manifestations have become the first major non-parliamentary action in the FRG after the coming power of the conservative ruling coalition. "These manifestions made it plain to the FRG ruling circles that the majority of the people of the FRG have no sympathies for their readiness to deploy U.S. "Pershing-2" and cruise missiles in the FRG, their backing for the so-called zero option as well as nationalistic statements of some represnetatives of the government," he said.

"It goes without saying that we, Communists of the FRG, participate actively together with all peace forces in the preparation and holding of spring peace marches," he said.

The spring peace marches gave a fresh impetus to the peace movement, set before it new tasks, above all that of the consolidation of the unity of the peace movement. The West German Communists will continue contributing to this important cause, Herbert Mies said.

USSR-PDRY POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS HELD IN ADEN

LD041818 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 4 Apr 83

[From the "Window on the Arab World" program prepared by Rafael Arutyunov]

[Text] Soviet-PDRY political consultations are taking place in the capital city of Democratic Yemen. Taking part in this are Karen Brutents, vice chairman of the CPSU Central Committee International Relations Department, who is currently visiting the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen [PDRY], and Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Nikita Ryzhov. Talks have taken place with PDRY officials on matters relating to the consolidation and continuation of friendly ties between the two countries, and the current situation in the world and the Middle East. It is noteworthy that the achievements of the young PDRY, in particular its achievements in people's education, have won much admiration. The future of the country depends on the youth, therefore the state pays great attention to this area.

The effectiveness of Soviet-PDRY cooperation is manifesting itself. A report from Aden by a PRAVDA correspondent said that at present the number of students there is 400,000, bearing in mind the fact that the PDRY population is less than 2 million. In the parts of the capital where the sultans and shaykhs used to build palaces and villas before independence, we now find that enthusiastic students of Aden University have taken over. About 3,200 students are studying in six faculties there. The Soviet people are pleased with the fact that Soviet specialists and tutors have made their modest contribution to these positive changes.

Further Details

LD050912 Moscow TASS in English 0836 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Text] Aden April 5 TASS -- Soviet-South Yemeni political consultations have taken place here. They were conducted by Karen Brutents, deputy head of the International Affairs Department of the CPSU Central Committee and Nikita Ryzhov, deputy minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, for the Soviet side, and by Mahmud Ahmad an-Natashi, member of the Central Committee of the Yemen Socialist Party, deputy secretary of the Central Committee of the Yem Socialist Party for international affairs, M.A. Imaya, deputy minister of foreign affairs of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, and Salih Abu Bakr ibn Hasanayn, member of the Central Committee of the Yemen Socialist Party and ambassador of Democratic Yemen to the Soviet Union, for the Yemeni side.

In the course of the consultations, which passed in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding, the sides reviewed problems of cooperation between the two countries, between the CPSU and the Yemen Socialist Party, and also international problems, including the situation in the Middle East.

They expressed satisfaction with the fruitful development of relations between the CPSU and the Yemen Socialist Party and between the Soviet Union and Democratic Yemen and stressed the desire for their further consolidation.

The participants in the consultations voiced profound concern over the situation in the Middle East, further aggravated by the Israeli aggression against Lebanon and by U.S. expansionistic policy. They strongly denounced the Israeli occupation of a part of Lebanese territory, the policy of genocide against the Palestinian people and also a campaign of threats and provocations against Syria unleashed by Tel Aviv with U.S. backing.

It was noted that the peace-loving public in all countries was becoming increasingly aware of the need energetically to counter U.S. aggressive imperialist policy, which is dangerously aggravating the international situation.

The representatives of Democratic Yemen spoke highly of the principled and consistent stand of the Soviet Union, siding itself with the Arab peoples in their struggle for a just and comprehensive settlement in the Middle East and voiced support for the Soviet peace initiatives aimed at ensuring world peace, international security and disarmament.

COMMENTARY WARNS OF ISRAELI ATTACK AGAINST SYRIA

LD012217 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1500 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Aleksandr Timoshkin commentary]

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen, good evening. Today I wish to draw your attention to the reply from Washington and Tel Aviv to the USSR Government's statement about the preparations being made for a Zionist aggression against Syria. Let me refresh your minds about some parts of the statement: The military and political figures of Israel vie with one another in statements about the inevitability of a pre-emptive war against Syria and about the Israeli Army's preparations for it. Military preparations are being conducted in Israel undisguisedly with the aim of delivering a piratic strike against Syria.

The USSR Government [words indistinct] coordination of the actions of Tel Aviv and Washington in preparing for aggression against Syria. The USSR Government believes that it is not accidental at all that the heightening of the anti-Syrian war hysteria in Israel is accompanied by the increased U.S. political, military and financial aid to its partner.

Specifying the principal objective of the aggressive activities of Washington and Tel Aviv against Syria, the Soviet Government pointed out that the American-Israeli alliance is trying to destroy Syria and force it to refrain from facing up to the imperialist and Zionist intrigues in the Middle East.

In its statement, based on facts, the USSR Government said that this was Israel's old dream -- indeed, not Israel's alone.

Washington and Tel Aviv embarked on a shoddy trick in seeking to deceive everybody. The U.S. State Department spokesman could not find anything to say other than to imply that Washington has no knowledge of any Israeli intention to stage a military action in the Lebanese Al-Biqa' Valley or against Syrian territory.

U.S. State Department official spokesman Romberg went even further in distorting facts and in transferring the blame for the escalation of tension in the Middle East from the United States and Israel to the USSR.

Rombert claimed that, with its harsh warning against the participants in the preparations for aggression against Syria, the Soviet Government undermines the efforts being exerted for reaching a settlement to the Middle East crisis. By this, naturally, he means the efforts of Washington and Tel Aviv and their agents to impose a settlement on the Arabs which would bury the question of guaranteeing the legitimate national rights of the Palestine people, particularly their right to set up their independent state in their own land.

In this regard, gentlemen, I wish to point out that Washington and Tel Aviv have resorted again to their tactic of big lies and false denial of facts. It is worth mentioning here that last year the USSR repeatedly warned of an impending wide-scale Israeli aggression against Lebanon. The Zionists and their transatlantic strategic allies frankly denied the Soviet warnings. But Israel did carry out its aggression against Lebanon and this aggression continues to this very day. The objective of this aggression is more evident: To curb Lebanon and rob it of its national independence and sovereignty and turn it into a bridgehead for future American-Israeli joint aggressions in the Middle East. It is precisely from the Lebanese territory that the Zionists, encouraged and sided by the United States, are preparing for a military action against Syria.

I wish to point out that during the aggression against Lebanon, the United States continued to arm Israel most generously and to increase the volume of military and nonmilitary aid to the Zionists.

In view of this, the totally false allegations of Washington and Tel Aviv should not deceive anyone. As the USSR government pointed out in its statement, the criminal designs against Syira cannot leave anyone indifferent. All those who cherish the cause of peace, justice and dignity should support Syria, which the Zionists and the American imperialists want to turn into a new victim for their aggression in the Middle East.

The USSR and other countries have declared their firm support for Syria and their readiness to stand by it against the impending danger. Thank you and peace be with you.

Israeli Buildup of Al-Biqa'

LD022336 Moscow TASS in English 1330 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Text] Beirut April 2 TASS -- Israel is accelerating preparations for broad military action against the Syrian contingent of the inter-Arab peacekeeping force in Lebanon. The transfer of military equipment, army units and ammunitions to the military positions in Al-Biqa' Valley has been sharply stepped up. Over the past days, columns of tanks, armoured personnel carriers and self-propropelled artillery and rocket-firing pieces have been crossing the Lebanese-Israeli border, heading for the front-line, on the heights near the settlements of Yanta, Kamed El-Lodz and Kfar-kuk [TASS spelling]. The aggressors have set in place a network of radar stations and observations posts, and roads for military uses are being built.

For a fourth day in a row, Israeli artillery has been bombarding the positions of Syrian troops and units of the Palestine resistance movement, as well as civilian objectives in the Al-Biqa' Valley.

There is a broadening movement of the Lebanese people to protest the terror and repressions of the Israeli authorities. A general strike of solidarity with the population of south Lebanon occupied by the Israeli Army, was held in the North Lebanese town of Tripoli. Mass rallies participants demanded an end to the terror against innocent Lebanese population, the tortures and maltreatment of the prisoners of the Ansar concentration camp.

In the occupied terrorities, the Israeli military are carrying out broad punitive operation against the Lebanese and Palestinians. On orders from the military administration, tanks are armoured personnel carriers have been moved into all the major south Lebanese settlements, and additional checkpoints are being set up everywhere.

SUSPENSION OF F-16 DELIVERY U.S. TRICK

LD031555 Moscow TASS in English 1441 GMT 3 Apr 83

["Propagandist Trick of the USA" -- TASS Headline]

[Text] Moscow April 3 TASS -- TASS commentator Vladimir Kudelin writes:

U.S. mass media spare no efforts to derive the maximum propagandist effect from President Reagan's recently announced decision to suspend the delivery of newest F-16 fighter bombers to Israel until Israeli troops withdraw from Lebanon.

It is obvious that the aim of the trick is to restore to a certain extent the United States' reputation in the eyes of Arab peoples, reputation which has been considerably damaged by the all-round aid which the USA constantly gives to the Israeli aggressor. In this context the decision of the White House to suspend the delivery of "F-16" planes is being presented by the USA almost as the U.S. Administration's "vigorous pressure" on Tel Aviv in order to ensure a peaceful settlement in Lebanon with due regard for the legitimate rights and interests of the Lebanese.

In actual fact Washington takes care only of such a "settlement" of the Lebanese crisis which would make it possible within the framework of the notorious U.S.-Israeli "strategic alliance" to ensure the interests of the USA and its ally -- Israel, to consolidate and expand U.S. military presence in Lebanon and other parts of the Arab world, and to impose imerialist diktat on the peoples of the region. Of course, there is no question of any pressure on Israel. On the contrary rather, with its trick with the suspension of the delivery of the F-16 planes, Washington increases pressure on Jordan to draw it into the Camp David separate deal, and into the realization of President Reagan's anti-Arab, anti-Palestinian plan on the Middle East. It is characteristic that the gross pressure on Amman is being escalated at a time when King Husayn of Jordan is discussing with Yasir Arafat, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization, the question of whether Jordan will hold negotiations with Israel.

The new propagandist move of the White House is undoubtedly designed also to divert Jordan's attention from another not unimportant circumstance, the Reagan administration will not stir a finger to make the Israelis abandon further colonisation of the West Bank of the Jordan and the construction of new militarized settlements there. Moreover, the intensive construction is continued resultant of lavish financial injections regularly given to Tel Aviv by Washington. It is significant that during the recent speech in the White House the President did not find a single word of condemnation of Israel which, as even the U.S. President himself does not rule out, may go to annexation of the West Bank as well.

The dangerous playing with fire, launched by the ruling Zionist top leadership of Tel Aviv, with the blessing and full support of its U.S. patron, is threatening to result in new innumerable misfortunes and suffering for Arab peoples.

LEBANON RESOLUTE IN TALKS WITH U.S., ISRAEL

LD011331 Moscow TASS in English 1129 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Text] Beirut April 1 TASS -- The Lebanese-Israeli talks in which U.S. diplomats are taking part have reached a stalemate. Philip Habib, special U.S. presidential envoy in the Middle East, hurriedly left for Washington to get new instructions.

During the 25 rounds of the talks which lasted for three months Tel Aviv and Washington were trying to impose on the Lebanese authorities their version of a "settlement" which would enable Israel to consolidate its position in Lebanon and to start the colonisation of its southern regions -- the way it is doing now in the West Bank of the River Jordan. However, neither the political maneuvers of the White House nor its open military blackmail nor Tel Aviv's arrogant threats have changed the principled position of the Lebanese Government which demands that Israel comply with the United Nations Security Council Resolutions 508 and 509 providing for an immediate, complete and unconditional withdrawal of Israeli troops from all the occupied Lebanese territories.

Local political observers express serious concern that the United States and Israel, seeing that they cannot break the will of the Lebanese authorities during the talks, would start on a fresh military adventure. Observers note that this is evidenced by resumed U.S. shipments of weapons and combat equipment to Tel Aviv. Specifically, the United States has decided to supply to its strategic Mideast ally 200 Sidewinder missiles and 150 Sparrow air to air missiles. Apart from that, the U.S. Administration is considering a decision on handing over another 75 F-16 fighter bombers to the Israeli Air Force.

LIBYANS MARK ANNIVERSARY OF FOREIGN TROOP PULLOUT

PM011045 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 30 Mar 83 First Edition p 3

[TASS Report: "Libya's Resolve"]

[Text] Tripoli, 29 Mar -- The Libyan people are currently celebrating the 13th anniversary of the start of the withdrawal of foreign troops from Libyan territory. Following the Libyan revolution in 1969 imperialist military bases in the country were liquidated. This was a heavy blow to the plans of the Western strategists who were hoping to use them to combat progressive states and movements in this part of the world. For that reason, to this day the imperialists states, headed by the United States, cannot forgive the Libyan revolutionary regime the loss of their strategic military positions in the region. This is one reason for the malicious campaign the Reagan administration is waging against Libya, for the endless threats and provocations.

In this tense situation the Libyan people are actively combating the plans of U.S. imperialism, Zionism and reaction. They have on their side all the world's progressive forces, including the Soviet Union and the socialist community countries.

In connection with the anniversary of the evacuation of the foreign troops a military parade and a mass rally of working people were held in Tobruk. Addressing it, the leader of the Libyan revolution Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi roundly criticized the U.S. policy of aggression.

PRAVDA REVIEWS PENTAGON 'SCENARIO' FOR IRAN

LD050838 Moscow TASS in English 0756 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Text] Moscow April 5 TASS -- In an attempt to condition public opinion to the thought that war is inevitable, the Pentagon has worked out even its scenario which has become known to journalists. "There is no mistake in my using the word 'scenario'," writes PRAVDA'S political news analyst Yuriy Zhukov. "That is the name given to their document by American generals who enclosed it with the Pentagon's secret plan containing 106 pages, designed, as UPI agency stresses, to determine directions of military policy and planning of the Armed Forces and resources in the period between fiscal 1985 and 1989 for a total sum of nearly two trillion dollars."

The scenario covers a period of 125 days. Naturally, responsibility for the beginning of the war rests with the Soviet Union, without any grounds what so ever. The war is to start, according to the Pentagon, from...the Soviet invasion of Iran.

The further, the worse. Generals describe in detail what will happen 42 days before the beginning, 37 days before the beginning, 16 days, 12 days, 6 days before the beginning, and finally how the war breaks out on land and at sea in Asia, the Indian Ocean and in Europe -- everywhere.

The Pentagon undertakes one action after another to repulse the alleged offensive of 24 Soviet divisions which, "probably", will attack Iran: The United States demands that Russians display restraint and deploys its troops in Iranian territory, Saudi Arabia consents to the presence of American forces, American aircraft hit targets in the Soviet rear, American units are airlifted to reinforce NATO, Washington declares general mobilisation, the United States moves reinforcements to South Korea and so on, and so forth.

"I repeat that this is not a Hollywood script of a science fiction film. This is a scenario of war, drawn up by Pentagon generals, Yuriy Zhukov stresses.

They in Washington know too well that the USSR never had, nor has any intention to invade either Iran, or any other country. The UPI-published official scenario shows quite frankly and realistically what the Pentagon is seeking to achieve by frantically establishing military bases in the Middle East, on Diego Garcia island in the Indian Ocean, in Japan and in many other countries around the Soviet Union and fraternal socialist countries.

SUPREME SOVIET PRESIDIUM CABLES KHOMEYNI ON QUAKE

LD311802 Moscow TASS in English 1711 GMT 31 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 31 TASS -- The Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet has sent the following message to Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni, religious leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran:

"We express sympathy in connection with the natural calamity, from which your country has suffered -- an earthquake in the Amol area, which entailed loss of life.

Please convey profound condolences to the families of the deceased and those who suffered from the earthquake."

A message from the presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet to Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, runs:

Mr President, accept profound condolences over the natural calamity, the earthquake, from which Iran has suffered.

Please convey our sympathy to the families of the deceased and those who suffered from the earthquake".

U.S. POLICY, ACTIONS IN NICARAGUA ASSAILED

'Increasingly Unrealistic' Policy

LD042110 Moscow TASS in English 1814 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Moscow April 4 TASS -- TASS commentator Ruslan Knyazev writes:

The White House has allocated to the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency large additional funds for the financing of the operations to destabilise Nicaragua, NEWSWEEK reported today. According to the magazine, the Reagan administration already spent about 30 million dollars for these subversive actions.

The information of a U.S. magazine is another confirmation of the fact that has long become obvious for all, that the criminal intervention into the territory of sovereign Nicaragua has been prepared and implemented precisely by the United States. Assurances of official Washington propaganda that there is, allegedly, a "civil war" in Nicaragua between governmental forces and so-called "fighters for democracy" are now hardly believed by anyone even in the USA itself.

This is shown, above all, by the U.S. mass media. Almost every day the leading newspapers, journals and the television of the USA report ever new details about Washington's decisive role in the subversive actions of the Somoza men against the revolutionary republic, specifically about the present intrusion of large counter-revolutionary military units into Nicaraguan land. THE WASHINGTON POST, for instance, recalled on Sunday, that President Reagan is personally responsible for masterminding anti-Nicaraguan actions, since the CIA had started preparing them on his special decree.

The United States' participation in the intervention was not limited to its financing and organizing. According to a report of THE NEW YORK TIMES, Washington is now directing through the U.S. Embassy in Honduras all operations of the Somoza men who had invaded Nicaragua and is systematically supplying them with "intelligence data" on the movement of Nicaraguan forces, on the deployment of tanks and artillery.

Besides that, the White House plans to widen armed operations against Nicaragua. For this purpose, NEWSWEEK writes, an invasion by new counter-revolutionary formations from the south, from Costa Rica's territory is being prepared.

Washington's "undeclared "war against the revolutionary republic threatens to aggravate seriously the situation in the entire [as received] of Central America that is extremely dangerous for universal peace as it is. This is realised ever more also in the United States. The policy of the Reagan administration with regard to Nicaragua becomes increasingly unrealistic, prominent political observer Ted Shultz expressed this opinion in his article in LOS ANGELES TIMES. He believes that the United States' actions in Latin America are fraught with another tragedy.

It is impossible not to agree with this sober conclusion.

Reagan 'Bears Personal Responsibility'

LD031259 Moscow TASS in English 1135 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Text] Washington April 3 TASS -- The head of the present Washington administration bears personal responsibility for organizing the CIA's subversive operations with a view to destabilizing the Government of Nicaragua.

As the newspaper WASHINGTON POST reports today with reference to "authoritative sources", way back in March 1981 Reagan "authorized" the CIA to give support to "paramilitary operations" both in Nicaragua itself and around it. The newspaper points out that a presidential decree was issued in November of the same year. As a result of the decree this kind of the CIA's activity took a new turn while the U.S.-supported military activity in Nicaragua sharply increased.

The report in THE WASHINGTON POST serves as an additional confirmation that the CIA and the Pentagon stand behind the current invasion of the Somozista bands into the territory of Nicaragua. It is preceisely the CIA and the Pentagon that provide the counter-revolutionaries with U.S.-made arms, carry out their intensive training in the territory of the CIA itself and in the territories of some neighbouring countries for terrorist and sabotage actions.

Washington is broadening military support for the regime of Honduras from the territory of which bandits, with whose aid the USA would like to stifle the Nicaraguan revolution and to overthrow the legitimate government of that country, are infiltrated.

THE WASHINGTON POST points out that such a kind of activities runs counter to the laws of the USA itself and, in particular, to the Congress-adopted amendment initiated by Edward Boland, member of the House of Representatives. According to the amendment, the CIA and the Pentagon have no right to spend funds to support operations aimed at overthrowing the Government of Nicaragua or at provoking a military clash between Nicaragua and Honduras.

ATTORNEY GENERAL SMITH TO VISIT LATIN AMERICA

LD031321 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0615 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Text] Washington 3 Apr (TASS) -- U.S. Attorney General W. Smith sets off on Monday on a trip to a number of Latin American countries. He will visit Mexico, Peru, Bolivia and, it is assumed, El Salvador. The official aim of the visit is "assistance to the struggle" against the spread of narcotics. However, as local observers believe, the attorney general has much broader tasks before him.

The trip by the attorney general is seen by observers as a continuation of attempts by the Reagan administration aimed at gaining the support of Latin American states for pro-U.S. reactionary regimes in Central America, above all in El Salvador.

ARKHIPOV CONFERS WITH CUBAN AIDES

PM010933 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 31 Mar 83 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under general heading: "Official Reports"]

[Text] I.V. Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, receiv d M. Lage Coello, Cuban minister of the iron and steel machinery industry, and H. Rodriguez Llompart, chairman of the Cuban State Committee for Economic Cooperation, 30 March.

R. Anillo Capote, Cuban ambassador to the USSR, took part in the conversation.

USSR, CUBA SIGN ECONOMIC COOPERATION PROTOCOL

LD012341 Moscow in Serbo-Croatian to Yugoslavia 1600 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Text] At negotiations between the Soviet Union and Cuba, which ended in Moscow today, it was agreed to expand economic cooperation.

A protocol envisaging measures to increase Soviet aid for the development of the energy, metallurgy and petrochemical industries and in preparing national cadres, was signed. In the present five-year plan, Cuba, with the participation of the Soviet Union, is constructing 200 industrial and other installations and practically the same number of schools.

GRENADA ENVOY MOSCOW PRESS CONFERENCE REPORTED

LD311655 Moscow TASS in English 1555 GMT 31 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 31 TASS -- Grenada, whose people are now building a new society, free from exploitation of man by man, pursues a peace policy and threatens no one, including the United States, Grenada's Ambassador to the USSR Wilfred [name as received] Richard Jacobs declared today. Addressing a press conference for Soviet and foreign journalists here, he described as "absurdity" the attempts to prove that Grenada, with a population of only 130,000 people, allegedly threatens the United States. "Grenada does not have the slightest intention to attack anyone," the ambassador pointed out.

The ambassador exposed the Washington Administration's allegations that the international airport, now being built in Grenada, has a military designation and undermines the U.S. "national security". Grenada's economy, the ambassador said, largely depends on foreign tourism. That is why the construction of the international airport on the island will give fresh impetus to developing this industry.

The ambassador recalled in this connection that plans of building a similar airport were worked out by specialists from the United States, Britain and some other countries as late as 26 years ago. They refused, however, to help carry out the project after the victory of the revolution in Grenada in 1979. That is why the Grenada Government had to ask for assistance from other countries. Firms of 17 countries are taking part in the construction of the airport.

Wilfred Richard Jacobs denounced the U.S. aggressive course in Central America and Caribbean. The aim of the militarist policy is obvious, he said. The United States is seeking to suppress the revolutionary movement in the countries of the region. This is evidenced by the recent invasion of Nicaragua by U.S.-backed counter-revolutionary gangs.

The ambassador pointed out that the Grenada revolution is also a target of U.S. aggressive designs. Documents, distributed at the press conference, show that counter-revolutionary elements outside the country receive from the CIA financial aid and armaments and undergo special training. The ambassador said further that the naval exercises, code-named Readex 83, currently conducted by the United States in the Caribbean, are an obvious attempt to intimidate Grenada's people and force them away from the path they have chosen.

On the domestic situation, the ambassador pointed out that the democratic changes carried out by the revolutionary government made it possible to introduce free medical services and education. The right of every Grenada citizen to housing and work is being exercised. Wilfred Richard Jacobs highly assessed the support and assistance extended to Grenada by the Soviet Union and the entire socialist community, and stressed the importance of agreements concluded with socialist countries for further development of the country's economy.

NATO MANEUVERS IN ATLANTIC 'OPENLY PROVOCATIVE'

LD292341 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0953 GMT 29 Mar 83

[Text] New York, 29 Mar (TASS) -- Naval maneuvers in which 70 U.S. ships from the 2d fleet, 8 British ships and 1 Netherlands ship as well as 400 aircraft are taking part have been going on for nearly 2 weeks in the vast area of the north-west Atlantic not far from Puerto Rico.

The fact that Washington chose to hold the NATO maneuvers in a region of the Atlantic in direct proximity to the shores of Cuba and Central America is direct evidence of their openly provocative nature.

PRAVDA TEXT OF GREETINGS TO GUADELOUPE CP

PM011203 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Mar 83 First Edition p 1

[Text] To the Communist Party of Guadeloupe [PCG] Central Committee

Dear comrades:

The CPSU Central Committee cordially congratulates all Guadeloupe Communists on the 25th anniversary of the PCG's formation.

For a quarter of a century Guadeloupe Communists have held aloft the banner of the struggle for national and social liberation for the island's working people. This selfless struggle has won the PCG well-deserved prestige and respect among working people.

Soviet Communists express solidarity with the PCG's struggle for the Guadeloupe people's right to determine their own destiny and for peace and socialism.

Long live the PCG!

May the fraternal ties between the CPSU and the PCG and between Soviet and Guadeloupe Communists strengthen!

CPSU Central Committee

SOVIET SHIP ENDS VISIT TO BUENOS AIRES

PM041059 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 31 Mar 83 First Edition p 3

[Report by Captain First Class B. Rodionov and Lieutenant Captain V. Myasnikov: "Visit Over"]

[Excerpts] From on board the oceanographic research ship Admiral Vladimirskiy [no date given] -- The official visit by the USSR Navy's oceanographic research ship Admiral Vladimirskiy to the Argentine port of Buenos Aires has ended.

On the final day of the visit, a reception was held on board the Soviet ship which was attended by representatives of the Argentine Navy Command and the naval attaches of other countries' embassies. The reception was held in a warm, friendly atmosphere.

BRIEFS

FLIGHTS TO ARGENTINA -- Today regular air links between Argentina and the USSR begin. In a few hours an IL-62M will set off for Buenos Aires. It will have to cover almost 15,000 km in 19 hours. Stops en route are anticipated in Berlin and Dakar. Initially Aeroflot will serve the route. Now its planes fly to 116 towns around the world. [Text] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 27 Mar 83 LD]

CPSU CC RESOLUTION ON RSDLP CONGRESS ANNIVERSARY

LD041157 Moscow TASS in English 1121 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Moscow April 4 TASS -- The Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union has adopted a resolution on the 80th anniversary of the Second Congress of the Russian Social Democratic Labour Party (RSDLP) at which the Bolshevik Party was established. This signal event in the history of the CPSU and the Soviet people will be widely celebrated in 1983.

The Second RSDLP Congress, the resolution says, completed the process of uniting revolutionary Marxist organisations in Russia on ideological, political, and organisational principles worked out by Lenin. A party of a new type, the party of the working class, the party of scientific communism, the party of socialist revolution and communist construction, entered the historical arena.

The establishment of the Leninist party became a natural outcome of social development, a turning point in the liberation struggle of the Russian and world proletariat.

The formation of the party is inseparable from the great theoretical and practical activity of Lenin -- the thinker of genius, follower and successor of the great cause of Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels.

The main result of the creative activity of the Soviet people guided by the Communist Party, the resolution stresses, is the construction in the USSR of developed socialism. The Soviet country is at the beginning of this natural and historically lengthy stage in the establishment of communist formation. Perfection of developed socialism is the main content of the activity of the party and people under present-day conditions, as gradual transition to communism will take place.

The supreme goal of socialist production, the document says, is a steady rise of living standards and creation of conditions for all-round development of the individual. Concern for the welfare of the Soviet man has been and remains the general line of our party.

The party of Lenin takes a just pride in achievements in the area of national relations. The nationalities issue as we inherited it from the exploiter system has been completely and irreversibly resolved. A country's multinational composition has turned for the first time in history from a source of its weakness into a source of its strength and prosperity.

The resolution points out that consistent development of socialist democracy is an important condition for progress of the Soviet society. The transition of the state of the whole people meant a change of great importance for the development of the political system of socialism and people's power. The new Constitution of the USSR created a legislative basis for deepening Soviet democracy, enriching its forms and methods. The party carries out purposeful work on drawing the broadest masses into managing state and public affairs, enhancing the activity of soviets of peoples deputies, trade unions, Komsomol and other public organisations, labour collectives in resolving economic and social tasks.

The Soviet people justly link all their accomplishments with the versatile activity of the CPSU -- the leading and guiding force of the Soviet society, the nucleus of its political system.

It turned during 80 years from a small organisation of Marxist revolutionaries into a powerful consolidated party with membership of more than 18 million. In the conditions of developed socialism, having become the party of the whole people, the CPSU does not lose its class character and remains by its nature the party of the working class. The role of the Communist Party in the life of the Soviet society invariably grows.

Since the time of its establishment, the Communist Party of the Soviet Union has been invariably guided by principles of proletarian, socialist internationalism. All its history is a graphic example of inseparable combination of things national and international. Under the present-day conditions the CPSU consistently resolves a dual task: It carries out successful construction of a new society in its country, actively influencing thus the course of the world liberation movement, and renders aid and support to revolutionary, progressive movements of our time.

The world socialist system has become a decisive factor of social progress. The community of the socialist states, the resolution says, is a new type of international relations built along the principles of socialist internationalism -- the ideological unity, common aims, comradely mutual assistance with full respect for the interests, distinctive features and traditions of each of the countries. The activities of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, the implementation of the comprehensive programs of socialist economic integration serve the cause of strengthening the might and social progress of the socialist countries. The Warsaw Treaty Organisation is a reliable shield of the socialist community. Questions pertaining to strengthening friendship and cooperation with the fraternal countries have always held and will hold a special, priority place in the international policy of the CPSU and the Soviet state.

The main motive force of the revolutionary struggle, of the entire democratic and anti-imperialist movement is the international working class. Our party sides with the courageous struggle of the working class of the non-socialist countries for their vital interests, against the omnipotence of the monopolies, for democracy and social progress. The CPSU pursues the line for strengthening the positions of the international communist movement, its cohesion on the basis of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism in the name of strengthening peace and social progress.

The party gives a resolute rebuff to the ideological opponents, their attacks against real socialism. The CPSU actively comes out, and will further come out together, with the other Marxist-Leninist parties against revisionism and opportunism which strive to belittle the guiding role of the communist parties and undermine their unity in the struggle for the interests of the working class, for the power of the working people, in building socialism. It is the internationalist duty of all communists to protect and firmly assert the Marxist-Leninist teaching of the party.

Being guided by the Leninist principle of peaceful coexistence of states with different social systems, the CPSU consistently and perserveringly struggle for preserving and strengthening peace. The CPSU, the entire Soviet people together with the fraternal parties, the working people of the socialist community, all progressive forces, the resolution stresses, resolutely come out against imperialism, above all against the militaristic circles of the USA, which are trying to mount an anti-communist "crusade" and threaten the world with nuclear war.

In consistently upholding the cause of peace and security of peoples, the CPSU and the Soviet state realise at the same time that as long as imperialism has not given up its striving to upset the present balance of forces and ensure military superiority, it is important to provide the Soviet Armed Forces with everything necessary for the defense of the USSR, its allies and friends. In following Lenin's precepts, the Communists Party and the Soviet state invariably display high vigilance and take the necessary measures to strengthen our homeland's defence capacity.

PRAVDA REPORTS ON UKRAINIAN PARTY AKTIV MEETING

PM041221 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Mar 83 First Edition p 2

[Report by PRAVDA correspondents A. Voytovich, O. Gusev and M. Odinets: "Solving Fundamental Tasks From Ukrainian Party Aktiv Meeting"]

[Text] Kiev [no date given] -- A Ukrainian party aktiv meeting has been held in Kiev. It discussed the republican party organization's tasks arising out of CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Comrade Yu. V. Andropov's report at the meeting celebrating the 60th anniversary of the USSR's formation. The report was delivered by V.V. Shcherbitskiy, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Ukrainian CP Central Committee.

The 60th anniversary of the USSR's formation, the speaker said, was an event of great importance. The celebration proved to be a striking demonstration of the socialist system's historic achievements, the triumph of Lenin's nationalities policy and the unbreakable loyalty of the CPSU and Soviet people to the ideas of Marxism-Leninism. The Soviet Ukraine has scaled great heights of economic, social and spiritual progress as a member of the harmonious family of Soviet people. The Ukrainian people are deeply aware that the close union with the great Russian people and all the fraternal republics is a safe guarantee of their current and future successes.

The successes that have been achieved, it was noted in the report and other speeches, represent a sound basis for the solution of the new, more complex and crucial tasks put forward bythe 26th party congress and subsequent plenums of the CPSU Central Committee. The chief, key task is to accelerate the switching of the economy to a predominantly intensive path of development and to considerably improve social production efficiency.

In order to continue increasing the republic's contribution to the strengthening of the country's economic and defense might, it is necessary, the keynote and other speakers said, to take into full consideration the ongoing processes of all-round integration of the socialist economy and the Ukraine's place and role in the all-union division of labor, ensure the most sensible utilization of natural and other resources and effectively increase the Ukraine's production and scientific potential. This approach should be the determining one in all spheres of activity.

The results of work in the first 2 years of the 5-year plan give grounds for concluding that Communists and all working people are deeply aware of their great duty to the country and are directing efforts toward fulfilling the 5-year plan tasks. In the past period national income has increased 6.3 percent, industrial output 5.6 percent and agricultural production 6.1 percent. Fixed capital worth more than R38 billion has been commissioned.

The meeting noted that paramount attention must continue to be given to the development of the base sectors of industry, in particular those providing the national economy with the fuel and energy resources and metal products it needs. In the first quarter plans for coal and iron ore extraction and for the production of cast iron, rolled metal, steel pipes and other items are being fulfilled. However, difficulties and shortcomings in these sectors have not yet been fully surmounted. Consumers have not had their full supply of coal and metal. The Ukrainian SSR Ministry of the Coal Industry, Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy, Gosplan and Gossnab, party committees and leaders of enterprises and associations must display maximum organization and persistence in order to ensure smoother and more harmonious work in all the most important areas of the national economy.

The meeting expressed concern in connection with the fact that at a number of enterprises and construction sites there have not yet been any appreciable improvements on questions relating to the economical consumption of raw material and energy resources. The targets for the first 2 months for saving ferrous metals, electric power, cement and timber were not reached. This work remains at a low level at enterprises of the Ukrainian SSR Ministry of the Construction Materials Industry, Ministry for the Construction of Heavy Industry Enterprises, Ministry of Light Industry and Ministry of the Food Industry. Fuel economies are inadequate in Vinnitsa, Kharkov, Odessa and some other oblasts, while enterprises in Zaporozhye and Lvov Oblasts are guilty of overconsumption.

The republic accounts for nearly one-fifth of all union deliveries. This fact shows what a great responsibility communists have for improving the state of affairs in the transport sphere. However, simply because the Donetsk Railroad failed to supply a sufficient number of freight cars, the coal industry fell short of the plan for sales and supplies of coal, especially coking coal. The Southern and Lvov Railroads are failing to ensure the prompt shipment of fuel, mineral fertilizers and agricultural machinery.

The speakers devoted much attention to the fulfillment of tasks determined by the Food Program. The paramount task here is to make every effort not only to fulfill this year's taxing plans but also to make up for as much of the debt as possible. Specific measures have been formulated to increase production of grain, sugar beets, fodder and other crops and livestock products. The speakers said that the new organs of agroindustrial complex management and farm and association primary party organizations are called upon to make their full impact on the implementation of plans.

It is a crucial time in the countryside -- the farmers have embarked on the spring field work. Criticism was leveled at agricultural organs and also at the leaders of Kiev, Nikolayev, Kherson and a number of other oblasts where repairs to some tractors and irrigation equipment have not been completed and not all the units have their full complement of operators. Mention was also made of another very important matter -- the well-organized winding up of the livestock wintering period and the building up of livestock raising production. In this connection Chernigov Oblast was censured for procuring less milk than last year and Voroshilovgrad, Donetsk and Crimean Oblasts for allowing meat procurements to drop.

The ever-increasing tasks in the economic sphere, the speakers stressed, can only be solved on the basis of more active use of scientific and technical achievements.

In order to intensify social production and improve its efficiency scientific collectives will have to make further efforts to create fundamentally new technological processes ensuring a significant improvement in labor productivity and saving of resources.

Examining questions related to organizational and ideological work, the aktiv participants noted that party organizations must take into account the changes taking place in the social structure of the population. In the republic, as in the country as a whole, the role of the working class in steadily increasing and its numbers are growing. The character, labor, everyday life and culture of rural inhabitants have changed radically. The people's intelligentsia now plays a bigger part in the enrichment of spiritual life and development of science, education and culture. It is an important task to ensure due regard for the interests of different social groups and ensure the optimum balance between them and the interests of the whole people.

The meeting said that new processes in the sphere of national relations must be promptly and fully reflected in the activity of party, soviet, trade union and Kosomol organizations and economic organs. The unswerving observance of the Leninist workstyle is the correct way to implement this task.

The meeting participants indicated the need to improve the propaganda of the party's Leninist domestic and foreign policy and intensify the patriotic and international education of working people. The documents of the Moscow session celebrating the USSR's 60th anniversary and Comrade Yu.V. Andropov's article "The Teaching of Karl Marx and Some Questions of Socialist Building in the USSR" provide ideological cadres, the party aktiv and all communists with a wealth of material for improving all ideological, mass political and organizational work.

The November (1982) plenum of the CPSU Central Committee made a point of raising questions relating to establishing order and organization and strengthening discipline. Much work is being done in this sphere in the republic, speakers said. Special attention is being paid to improving working conditions and safety measures in production and introducing progressive forms of labor organization and payment, financial autonomy and the widespread use of the collective contract. The implementation of all these tasks depends ultimately on work organization, on the skills of our cadres and the enhancement of their responsibility. A greater effort must be made to transfer the center of gravity of this work to labor collectives, to improve monitoring of implementation and increase the militancy of primary party organizations.

The republican party aktiv meeting approved measures to implement the tasks arising out of CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Yu.V. Andropov's report "Sixty Years of the USSR."

DECREE ON NEW ESTONIA AGROINDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION

PM050957 [Editorial Report] Tallinn SOVETSKAYA ESTONIYA in Russian on 26 March front-pages the 350-word text of a 25 March "Estonian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium Decree on Setting up an Estonian SSR Agroindustrial Association."

The association, the decree states, is to be "a union-republic central organ of State Administration of the Estonian SSR, the union-republic Ministry of Agriculture of the Estonian SSR, the Estonian SSR State Committee for Land Reclamation and Water Resources, and the Estonian SSR State Committee for the Supply of Production Equipment for Agriculture having been disbanded."

The same paper front-pages 25 March Estonian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium decrees announcing the appointments of "Comrade Kheyno Tynisovich Veldi as chairman of the Estonian SSR Agroindustrial Association;" "Comrade Vello Nikolayevich Kind as first deputy chairman of the Estonian SSR Agroindustrial Association and Estonian SSR minister."

Brief front-page unattributed biographies of the new appointees note that Veldi has been deputy chairman of the Estonian Council of Ministers since May 1981, Lind has been Estonian minister of agriculture since 1981 and Nakhkur has been chairman of the Estonian State Committee for the Supply of Production Equipment to Agriculture since May 1981.

GEORGIA DECREES ON AGRICULTURAL REORGANIZATION

WA301600 [Editorial Report] Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian on 12 March, page 1, reports a series of decrees on the reorganization of the republic's agricultural ministries. The decrees abolish the Georgian SSR Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources, and the State Committee for the Supply of Production Equipment for Agriculture, and establishes in their place a Georgian SSR Union-Republic State Committee for Agricultural Production.

The following personnel appointments are made as a result of the reorganization: G.D. Mgeladze, former Georgian minister of agriculture, is now chairman of the new State Committee for Agricultural Production; G.B. Gadeliya, R.D. Pantskhev, and D.Ye. Sarishvili are named first deputy chairmen of the new committee by the Georgian Council of Ministers and are given the rank of minister of the Georgian SSR by the Georgian Supreme Soviet.

UKRAINIAN CP CC ON SPRING SOWING PREPARATIONS

AU251606 Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 0500 GMT 25 Mar 83

[Summary] "The Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee has examined the preparedness of the republic's kolkhozes and sovkhozes for the spring sowing and the beginning of spring operations. Having listened to a report by Kolomiyets, Ukrainian Council of Ministers first deputy chairman, and to reports by Khorunzhiy, Garkusha, Filonenko, and Kotenko, leaders of Ukrainian ministries and departments, the Central Committee noted that intensive work was being carried out in the republic to ensure that spring crops are sown in an organized way. The farms of 16 oblasts have begun sowing.

"At the same time, the Ukrainian Ministries of Agriculture, of Sovkhozes, of the Fruit and Vegetable Industry, of Land Reclamation and Water Resources, the Ukrainian Selkhoztekhnika State Committee, the Ukrainian State Committee for Petroleum Refining and Petrochemical Industry and some oblispolkoms have failed to take exhaustive steps to eliminate existing shortcomings. The farms of Nikolayev, Sumy, Odessa, Kiev, Chernigov, and Kherson Oblasts have not completed the repair of some farm equipment. Some enterprises are not fully supplying farms with material and technical resources."

The appropriate authorities have been instructed to see to it that K-700 and T-150-K tractors, sprinklers, pumping and generating equipment, and land amelioration systems are fully prepared in the shortest time possible, and that farms are well-supplied with oil products, spare parts, material and other resources.

'BUSINESS CLUB' ON FULFILLING CPSU RESOLUTION

PM032129 [Editorial Report] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 17 March First Edition publishes on page 2 a full-page "PRAVDA business club" feature under the heading "Improving the Management of the Economy: How the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers Resolution on the Economic Mechanism Is Being Fulfilled." The feature includes an unattributed 3,500-word report on a recent session of the PRAVDA "business club" which states that "the latest session of PRAVDA's "business club' discussed the course of the practical implementation of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers resolution on improving the economic mechanism and the problems arising in this connection. Taking part in the talk were directors and economists from industrial enterprises; party workers and scientists; and representatives of ministries, the USSR Gosplan, the USSR State Committee for Labor and Social Problems, the USSR State Committee for Prices, and the USSR Gossnab." The report goes on to give an account of the issues discussed, including problems of correcting and balancing plans, particularly in relation to metallurgy and machine building; criticism of the USSR Gosbank for ignoring point 57 of the resolution relating to credit; the problem of the proliferation of planning indicators; and an enterprise's conflicting loyalties to its ministry and to local party committees and the consequent restrictions on its autonomy.

The feature also includes the following comment by D. Valovoy and A. Mikitin under the heading "Afterword to Session":

"Problems of economic building have always been and remain the focus of attention of our party and its Central Committee. In the past decade the country's economic potential has virtually doubled. The rapid growth of production forces presupposes the constant improvement of production relations and the improvement of the entire system of economic management with consideration for economic laws. This process is a complex one. There are objective difficulties in its development but subjective factors also have an effect. The 25th party congress had already noted that 'we have the right, indeed the duty, to regard measures to improve the leadership of the economy as a very important reserve whose use will help to fulfill the 10th 5-Year Plan successfully and produce an effect in the very near future.

"In the 10th 5-Year Plan this reserve was not used to the necessary extent, unfortunately, which had an adverse effect on the fulfillment of the basic targets of the last 5-year plan, particularly for the growth of social production efficiency. The speeches by those taking part in the PRAVDA 'business club' session attest that now too the use of this 'very important reserve' could be much better. The introduction of the outlined measures is not being effected comprehensively or consistently and in some cases is being effected only formally.

"Many of those taking part in the session expressed fears that unless resolute steps are taken it will be difficult to obtain the desired results in the current 5-year plan too. To avoid this it was suggested there should be an enhancement of the personal responsibility of the leaders of the departments assigned the task of the practical introduction of new methods of economic management and assessment indicators. Here special attention was drawn to problems like the improvement of the plans' level of balance, the improvement of the system of indicators, the intensification of contract discipline, and a fundamental improvement in supplies.

"In particular some of those taking part in the 'business club' suggested drawing the attention of the USSR Gosbank and interested departments to point 18 of the resolution. It speaks of the need to complete basically back in...1980 the transfer of production associations and enterprises to direct long-term economic ties. However, this work has not been carried through. In the opinion of those taking part in the session the matter brooks no delay.

"It is particularly important now to accelerate the introduction of unified generalized economic indicators for determining the growth rates for production volume and labor productivity in the sectorial and territorial contexts.

In the opinion of a number of those taking part in the session it is essential to define more precisely the boundaries for the use of cost indicators. This will reduce production workers' interest in pursuing volume expressed in terms of rubles, enhance the role of physical indicators, and create more favorable conditions for assessing collectives' work on the basis of the results of the fulfillment of deliveries with consideration for contract commitments and trade orders.

"The resolution suggested that the USSR Gosplan and relevant departments ensure the formation of the material and financial reserves necessary to guarantee the economy's proportioned and balanced development. But there is no proper consistency in this work; to this day it is insufficiently comprehensive. The 'business club' session cited examples where a lack of proper balance in one place frequently leads through a chain reaction to the unbalancing of plans in other sectors of economic building.

"Pointing to the need to create the requisite economic situation, and organizational and management relations, the 26th party congress noted that 'that is precisely what is envisaged by the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers resolutions adopted in 1979 on the further improvement of the economic mechanism and the improvement of the planning system. They must be consistently implemented. And at the same time we must go further in resolving the problems which have accumulated."

"To accelerate these processes, in the opinion of those taking part in the 'business club' session, in every department or sector headquarters it is necessary to elaborate a comprehensive program and precise schedules for introducing all the basic provisions of the new economic mechanism. It is no less important to define the specific responsibility for the matter in hand of each functional or structural subdivision and its leaders, and it is obviously expedient to examine regularly the actual course of the introduction of economic innovations at collegium and party committee sessions. Responsibility for amendments to plans and the reduction of the quality and discipline of planning must be enhanced, as the party resolution demands.

"Special importance attaches to the full, mutually agreed introduction of the mechanism of economic management not only in a particular sector but also in the broad group of all related sectors and in the country as a whole. The interdepartmental commissions of the USSR Gosplan and union republic gosplans for questions of improving planning should render more substantial aid in coordinating the elaboration of measures of this kind and implementing them. It is also expedient to step up the propaganda of economic knowledge among the broad working masses. Here we should study in greater depth and make better use of the experience of economic management, socialist enterprise, and initiative.

"The practical implementation of the resolutions adopted by the party and government on economic questions is a central link in steering a course toward accelerating the intensification and enhancing the efficiency of social production. Analyzing at the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) plenum the experience and shortcomings in developing the most important sectors of the national economy, Comrade Yu. V. Andropov noted that many decisions have been taken aimed at eliminating these shortcomings and they should be fulfilled."

VALOVOY DISCUSSED NORMATIVE NET OUTPUT

PM022055 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Mar 83 First Edition p 2

[Article by Doctor of Economic Sciences Prof D. Valovoy: "Normative Net Output"; first paragraph is editorial introduction; words, capitalized passages published in boldface]

[Text] It would probably be hard to find an economic indicator which has been discussed and argued over as much as normative net output.

The indicator began to be used experimentally 10 years ago. In July 1979 the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers adopted a resolution on the further improvement of the economic machinery which gave the new indicator legal status. Its mass introduction began in January 1982. It is an important way of accelerating work to improve the entire sphere of economic leadership, the necessity of which was mentioned by Comrade Yu.V. Andropov at the November (1982) plenum of the CPSU Central Committee.

THE ROAD TO INNOVATION

Back in the twenties there was much discussion about an indicator recording production volume in monetary terms. In a letter to the Central Statistical Administration in 1921 V.I. Lenin recommended that one consider "the way foreign statisticians have long been drawing up these 'numerical indicators.'" Taking into account the experience of the capitalist countries, many economists proposes that net output should become such an indicator.

Four months after F.E. Dzerzhinskiy's appointment as chairman of the USSR Supreme National Economic Council, he wrote in a note to one of his colleagues that "the concept of net output should be incorporated in the report on labor productivity." At the August 1924 plenum of the Russian Communist Party (Bolsheviks) Central Committee Dzerzhinskiy sharply criticized the gross output indicator and the method of determining labor productivity on its basis:

"WHEN WE CALCULATE A SECTOR'S GROSS OUTPUT, FELIKS EDMUNDOVICH SAID, "WE ARE COMPLETELY IGNORING OUR UNECONOMICAL, DOWNRIGHT RAPACIOUS USE OF RAW MATERIALS, FUEL AND SEMI-FINISHED MATERIALS, YET ACCORDING TO OUR CALCULATIONS, THE MORE WE FRITTER AWAY, THE MORE WE ARE PRODUCING AND THE BETTER OUR PRODUCTIVITY."

"THE FIRST EDITION OF THE LARGE SOVIET ENCYCLOPEDIA SAYS:

"WHEN CALCULATING THE GROSS OUTPUT OF INDUSTRY AS A WHOLE, "WE ARE LOSING TOUCH WITH THE ACTUAL OUTPUT VALUE LEVEL AND ARE IN FACT EXAGGERATING IT. THIS INCREASE IS DUE TO A REPEAT CALCULATION WHICH OCCURS BECAUSE THE OUTPUT OF SOME FARMS, HAVING BEEN COUNTED ONCE, MAY BE COUNTED AGAIN AND AGAIN IN THE OUTPUT OF OTHER FARMS WHERE IT HAS GONE FOR FURTHER PROCESSING."

Nevertheless, gross output became the value level indicator of production growth [Stoimostnyy obyemnyy pokazatel rosta proizvodstva]. What is this indicator? GROSS OUTPUT is the level of production in rubles. It incorporates: The value of past (someone else's) labor in the form of semifinished materials and one's own (live) labor in the form of wages and profit. Formerly, when changes in the list and range of products were rare and, as a rule, were timed to coincide with the new plan, it was not particularly difficult to determine the proportions of past and live labor in the finished item. Therefore, the adverse effect of gross output was to a considerable extent avoided.

The rapid development of production specialization and coproduction as one of the most important spheres of technical progress, and the improvement in social production efficiency have led to a steady increase in the repeated calculation of the value of the same materials, semimanufactured, and even finished machinery. This has taken us farther and farther away "from the actual output value level."

Little changed as a result of the appearance of the marketed output level [indicator] after 1965. Why? Like gross and commodity output, it includes the value of materials. Therefore the reduction of gross output AUTOMATICALLY lowers the sales level. Moreover, the rate of growth of the production level and of labor productivity have continued to be determined on the basis of gross (commodity) output, and the wage fund has also depended on it.

In these conditions the need for the introduction of net output [indicator] has increased. What is it? NET OUTPUT is value added, that is, wages plus profit.

As distinct from gross, commodity and marketed, it does not incorporate other people's labor as embodied in material expenditure. NORMATIVE NET OUTPUT [NNO] reflects not the actual wages and profit but the normative volume of wages and profit in terms of the product profitability norm.

Thus, NNO has a substantial advantage over other indicators in that it reflects the production collective's OWN CONTRIBUTION to the finished product and PREVENTS exaggeration of the value level through other people's labor as embodied in material expenditure, the proportion of which is steadily increasing.

However, the advantages of the new indicator cannot emerge of their own accord. Intensive and purposeful work is needed to realize them. Unfortunately, in practice its application is inconsistent and in some places too formal, which discredits NNO considerably. The opponents of the new indicator take advantage of this and criticize it on all sides. Some of them are advocating the retention of the old indicators, others are inventing more and more new ones.

"To select examples," V.I. Lenin wrote, "does not present any particular problem, neither does it have any significance, unless that be purely negative.... Facts, if taken WHOLE, as INTERCONNECTED, are not just inescapable but are absolutely conclusive. Scraps of fact, if they are not taken whole, if they are taken in isolation, if they are fragmentary and arbitrary, are simply toys or something even worse."

Some economists select facts confirming their view that NNO is unsuitable and draw from them conclusions which can only be called paradoxical.

"GET TO THE ROOT OF IT!"

On analyzing the new indicator one economist was amazed by the "staggering discrepancy" between volume growth according to NNO and commodity output at the old Russian "Khimmash" plant. The former saw an increase of 11 percent, the latter a reduction of 6.2 percent. But there are many much more "staggering" examples. At the Berdyansk "Dormash" plant NNO increased 7 percent last year compared with 1980, while gross and commodity output fell 50 percent. Is this good or bad? "Get to the root of it!" suggested Kozma Prutkov. When we "got to the root of it" it turned out to be good, remarkable, even! And here's why.

THE PAVLODAR, ALTAY, VOLGOGRAD, AND KHARKOV TRACTOR PLANTS USED TO DELIVER MORE THAN 10,000 MACHINES TO BERDYANSK EVERY YEAR. THEY WOULD THEN HAVE SCRAPER SCOOPS AND BULLDOZER BUCKETS ATTACHED, THE VALUE...OF THE TRACTOR WOULD BE ADDED -- AND BERDYANSK WOULD SEND "ITS" PRODUCTS TO ALL PARTS, INCLUDING THE AREAS THE TRACTORS CAME FROM IN THE FIRST PLACE. M.N. GUBANOV DIRECTOR OF THE BERDYANSK PLANT, SPENT MANY FRUITLESS YEARS SUGGESTING THAT HIS SCOOPS BE SENT TO WHEREVER THE SCRAPERS WERE BEING USED. BUT IT WAS ONLY AFTER THE SWITCH TO NNO THAT HIS SUGGESTION WAS FINALLY TAKEN UP. THIS RESULTED IN A PERFECTLY NATURAL FALL IN THE LEVEL OF GROSS AND COMMODITY OUTPUT.

But it happens the other way, too. Last year, at the Soyuzlesremmash association, the increase in commodity output was 10.8 and in NNO only 4.4 percent as a result of an increase in the number of tractors converted into timber procurement units and roadbuilding machinery. Does this really show an increase in value added and an improvement in labor productivity? Of course not.

Specialists engaged in applying NNO know that differences between the results of plan fulfillment in terms of commodity output and NNO are bound to occur as a result of the structural changes in the product list and the different material inputs. In recent years the output of certain types of product has fallen in physical terms while the output level in rubles has increased.

How can this have happened? Chiefly as a result of an increase in the repeated calculation of the value of materials (semimanufactures) and the curtailment of a cheap range in favor of an expensive range. The elimination of these negative phenomena is one of the main functions of NNO. But as yet it is not performing its chief role. Why?

Because the growth rates for the production volume and labor productivity level in the oblasts, republics, and the national economy as a whole are still determined on the basis of gross (commodity) output. In these conditions the ELIMINATION of the repeated calculation of the value of materials and the EXPANSION of the production of cheap articles DESPITE a reported increase in output in physical terms will inevitably show an ARTIFICIAL reduction in the production rate and the level of labor productivity. If we get to the root of the matter, this is one of the main reasons for the CONTINUING general interest in the pursuit of volume in terms of rubles.

When introducing the new indicator it is necessary, in our view, to determine more precisely its place in the system of indicators, on the one hand, and -- on the basis of the accumulated experience -- to improve the structure of net output normatives and the methods of applying them, on the other hand.

COMPREHENSIVELY

In our view, many distorted assessments of NNO are due to the fact that some people believe that the supremacy of gross output would be replaced by the supremacy of another UNIVERSAL indicator. Hence the proposed introduction of a "rational, all embracing indicator of the efficiency of production and of the introduction of new equipment" and hence the attempts to accuse NNO of all manner of "deadly sins." Here is what one article says:

"THE NEW INDICATOR HAS HAD AN ADVERSE EFFECT ON DELIVERIES....AND WHAT IS WORSE, FINISHED OUTPUT WORTH MANY MILLIONS OF RUBLES IS LANGUISHING IN WAREHOUSES. IN THE NEW CONDITIONS THERE IS NO COMPULSION TO SELL, IT IS SUFFICIENT TO MANUFACTURE.... ASSESSMENT BY SALES USED TO BRING ABOUT THE PRODUCTION OF THE REQUISITE GOODS AND THEIR DELIVERY TO THE CONSUMER. NOW IT TAKES PLAIN DIRECTIVES AND UNREMITTING CONTROL FROM ON HIGH TO SQUEEZE THE PLANNED RANGE OF PRODUCTS OUT OF THE MANUFACTURERS."

Wherefore all the moans and groans? No one has abolished the sales indicator. On the contrary, its role is being significantly increased. Formerly, enterprises and associations were able to successfully fulfill and overfulfill the sales plan without supplying goods worth many billions of rubles. In order to prevent such distortions, the party and government resolution envisaged, alongside the introduction of NNO, making THE VOLUME OF SOLD OUTPUT IN TERMS OF THE FULFILLMENT OF CONTRACT AND TRADE ORDER COMMITMENTS a basic assessment indicator. This means that sales become essentially a generalizing physical indicator which cannot be fulfilled if there has been a delivery failure.

In this connection the demarcation of the functions of the assessment and volume indicators obviously deserves to be looked at. Under capitalism, for example, the goal of production is profit. It is the decisive assessment indicator. But since the last century capitalism has used indicators similar in their economic content to net output to measure production volume and labor productivity. For a long time gross (commodity) output was the main volume and assessment indicator in our country. Life has shown that volume growth in rubles does not always correspond to an increase in material assets and sometimes leads to the dissipation of them.

In order to implement more successfully the goal of socialist production, the fulfillment of contract commitments should be the main ASSESSMENT indicator, as envisaged by the party and government resolution. And NATO as a volume indicator ought to become a settlement indicator.

This will make it possible to stamp out the pursuit of rubles and create more favorable conditions for switching from the INPUT method of the planning and assessment of the work of economic links to the RESULTS method.

In our view, the structure of net output normatives needs further improvement. And in the following way. For a long time our pricing procedures have ignored K. Marx' thesis that surplus labor is created by live labor. Formerly, the level of an article's profitability was determined in relation to the full input cost. This upset the objective balance between the essential product created by labor for oneself and the surplus product created by labor for society. Often the latter was proportionally several times greater than the former. As a result of the "growth" of the surplus product per ruble of national income, material assets in physical terms became fewer and fewer.

This thesis is being adjusted during the introduction of NNO. As of 1 January 1982 the level of profitability was established in line ONLY with the cost, after deduction of material input. But the level of profitability varies for many types of products not only in different sectors but in a single ministry. The difference between minimum and maximum levels is 1:2 and sometimes 1:3. As a result an EQUAL quantity and quality of labor engaged in the production of goods with different profitability levels create DIFFERENT volumes of normative net output. So products continue to be split into favorable and unfavorable in terms of increasing production volume, raising the level of labor productivity and increasing the wage fund.

AT THE MINISTERY OF TRACTOR AND AGRICULTURAL MACHINE BUILDING LAST YEAR THE GAP BETWEEN MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM WAGE EXPENDITURE PER RUBLE OF GROSS OUTPUT WAS AS MUCH AS 2,700 PERCENT, BUT IN TERMS OF NNO -- 290 PERCENT. OF THE TWO EVILS, SO TO SPEAK, THE FORMER IS 10 TIMES WORSE. NEVERTHELESS, A YARDSTICK WHICH ALLOWS A 200-300 PERCENT SHIFT IN ONE DIRECTION OR THE OTHER REQUIRES FURTHER IMPROVEMENT. OF COURSE, IT IS PRACTICALLY IMPOSSIBLE TO TOTALLY ELIMINATE THE VARYING DEGREES OF FAVORABILITY. BUT WE MUST DO AS MUCH AS WE CAN. AND IN THIS RESPECT NNO HAS A GREAT ADVANTAGE IN THAT IT IS FREE FROM PAST LABOR INPUT.

Let us clarify the situation: Why are different levels of profitability fixed? This is done to make people more interested in producing particular items. But it is by no means the best solution. And here is why.

First, this considerably diminishes NNO's reliability as a measure of the value level of newly created output and the level of labor productivity. Second, it still upsets the objective balance between essential and surplus labor, which leads to an artificial increase in the surplus product.

And third and last, this incentive method is very arbitrary and often fails to achieve its purpose. Only 10-12 percent of the profit remains at the enterprise's disposal. A substantial part of the profit resulting from increased profitability goes into the budget as a net surplus without performing its incentive function. People may say that it aids the fulfillment of the profit target. Then why provide an excessively high, scientifically unsound target? Society does not get richer on paper profits. This "profit" is like a paper money issue in excess of the supply of goods. Do you think that would raise the real level of prosperity?!

Therefore it seems to us that there ought to be a UNIFIED level of profitability. And to provide extra incentives for certain types of products there are a number of methods, and more effective ones at that.

Accumulated experience convincingly shows that the introduction of NNO can lead to the desired result only if there is consistent implementation of the entire range of measures outlined by the party and government to further improve the economic management system.

MOSCOW RADIO REPORTS AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS

31 March - 1 April

LD020234 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian on 31 March and 1 April. Times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

31 March

Snow has left Saratov Oblast fields, and machine operators are beginning spring field work. More than 30,000 cultivating and sowing outfits will be in operation. There is warm weather in Kuban now, enabling farmers to drill seeds on 40,000 hectares of sugarbeet fields. Corn farmers are preparing for sowing. (0530 GMT)

Kolkhozes and sovkhozes on the plains of Kirghizia have completed sowing spring grain crops. Mass sowing of barley and wheat has now moved into the mountain fields of the Issyk-Kul and Naryn Oblasts. This year 250,000 hectares have been allocated for spring grain crops in Kirghizia; seeds have already been sown over half this area. (0700 GMT)

The land workers in Kostroma Oblast are starting their spring field work today, 2 weeks earlier than last year. Some fields are already free of snow. Therefore, they have decided to start top dressing winter crops and perennial grasses without delay; this will make it possible to preserve a large quantity of winter crops following the unfavorable winter and, as a result, to cut down the amount of resowing. It has been decided to complete topdressing on all areas by the start of the spring sowing work. Preparations for this are almost completed. (0700 GMT)

Cropdusting began in Ryazan Oblast today. Planes from the Ryazan aviation enterprise are applying fertiliaer to winter grain crops and perennial grasses. The pilots have promised to apply mineral fertilizer to 270,000 hectares during the early spring. Landing strips have been set up at farms. (0830 GMT)

Azerbaijan: Sowing of corn for grain has begun in the foothills area of the Greater Caucasus. Grain and beet growers of the republic have begun sowing in the Chu Valley, Kirgizia. (1200 GMT)

Spring field work has begun in Kharkov Oblast. Laying of fertilizer for winter crops has been completed. Mineral fertilizer was applied to 200,000 hectares with the help of aircraft. (2300 GMT)

1 April

Spring sowing is going well in Belgorod Oblast. Early spring crops already occupy over 100,000 hectares. Omsk Oblast is preparing for sowing, moisture retention is the first priority. Top dressing of winter crops with 40 AN-2 is underway in Penza Oblast. (0400 GMT)

Sowing of sugarbeets has been completed by Moldavian machine operators. One-half of the total area sown to this crop is now cultivated by industrial methods. Growers intend to obtain a 400 quintal yield on these fields. (1100 GMT)

Sowing of grain and grasses has begun in Kaliningrad Oblast. The irrigation season has begun in southern Ukraine. This is much earlier than usual. In Chimkent Oblast, corn will occupy 50,000 hectares this year -- two-thirds more than last year.

Sowing started today. About 80 percent of the grain harvesting combines are now ready in Lithuania. (1530 GMT)

Cotton sowing has begun in Tajikistan. The southern regions are primarily growing fine fibre varieties. (1800 GMT)

2-3 April

LD040243 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian on 2-3 April. Times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

2 April

Harrowing of the sown area has begun in Tambov Oblast. Aerial top dressing is underway. Grain crops will be sown on almost 900,000 hectares. Mass cotton sowing began today in the Karshi Steppe. In Tajikistan, reaping has begun of young rape and green barley for fodder. The fields will then be sown with cotton. (0204 GMT)

One-fourth of the grain Russia produces comes from the Volga Region. A significant contribution is made by the farmers of Saratov Oblast. This year they plan to harvest 7 million tons of grain crops. An oblast conference of agronomists is to discuss how to achieve this with the minimum losses of labor and resources how best to carry out spring sowing. (0600 GMT)

The aviators of Moldavia flew out today for work in the Non-Chernozem Region. About 1,000 hectares of mountain slopes in Kazakhstan have been prepared for new fruit plantations. (0700 GMT)

Farmers in Tula Oblast have begun the spring top dressing of winter crops. At the same time, moisture retention is underway over a large area. All cultivating and sowing machinery has been prepared for fieldwork. (1100 GMT)

3 April

Top dressing is underway in Altay. Almost 700,000 hectares of perennial grasses are to be treated. (0001 GMT)

Kaliningrad Oblast: Sowing of grain crops has started. (0204 GMT)

In Chuvashiya, aerial top dressing is underway. In the Crimea, irrigation is underway in the North Crimean canal zone. One-fifth of Crimean arable land, 320,000 hectares, is now improved. (0400 GMT)

Moldavia: Spring work is underway on vegetable plantations. Planting of early cabbage was completed in 2 days on many farms in the southern and Dnestr regions. Industrial techniques are being widely used. The republic's farmers have promised to sell the state over 1.18 million tons of vegetables and fruit this year. (1100 GMT)

North Ossetia: Republican headquarters reports that all is ready for corn cultivation using industrial techniques in the steppe and foothill areas. Some 52,000 hectares of irrigated land have been put in the charge of financially autonomous detachments, teams and links. Machinery has been overhauled everywhere, first class zonally-graded seeds are ready. (1100 GMT)

Mass sowing of spring wheat, barley, oats, grasses began in Kursk Oblast today.

Over 400 mechanized complexes are working on the fields. (1400 GMT)

Farmers in Ashkhabad Oblast have sown one-fourth of the whole area to be sown. Minsk: Flax seeds have been prepared in Belorussia in sufficient quantities to sow the whole area, which exceeds 230,000 hectares. (1530 GMT)

RAILCAR SHORTAGE EFFECTS AGRICULTURAL SUPPLIES

LD011756 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Program entitled: "Crisis Signal" presented by unidentified announcer]

[Text] Our correspondent in Kuybyshev Oblast, (Lidiya Krechetova), reports from Syzran:

The Syzran agricultural machinery association is a major supplier of fodder preparation equipment. It traditionally produces picking and gathering machines. This equipment is awaited by customers, who have been assailing the works with telephone calls and telegrams. Their unease is understandable. The time for grass cutting is approaching, especially in the southern parts of the country. Here is what the plant's Deputy Director Vyacheslav Vasilyevich (Aftayev) has to say:

[Begin (Aftayev) recording] Throughout 1982, the railroad left our plant short of 2,570 open frieght cars. Up to the present time we have output to the value of R5,806,000 standing at the plant and on adjoining land, including the town of Promenade and even on the ice of the Volga River. This includes 1,674 picking and gathering machines. In March we were short of 111 open railroad trucks even from the confirmed plan. (If we are to) get this land clear [words indistinct], but the matter is made worse by the fact that there will soon be flood tides on the Volga and our machines will float away. [end recording]

[Announcer] Before broadcasting this alarm signal, we made it known to (Valentin Vasilyevich Fokin), chief of the Transportation and Marketing Directorate of the Ministry of Machine-Building for Animal Husbandry and Fodder Production, and it turns out that Gomel and Riga machine manufacturers are in the same lamentable state of affairs today as at the Syzran plant. Every day for several months past the Sosnovyy Bor plant in Leningrad Oblast has been asking for help to dispatch its much-needed output to the country's farms. This situation has come about only through the fault of the railroad workers. As in the case of Syzran, they owe these three enterprises thousands of trucks, including open trucks. Comrade (Fokin) laid much stress on the fact that the machines manufactured at these plants are very much needed by farm workers. Without the equipment, he said, there is much spring work in the fields which cannot be started.

We telephoned Vladimir Nikolayevich Ginko, USSR first deputy minister of railways [Bureau records list Ginko as deputy minister] the text of the report from Syzran and the comments on it you have just heard. Comrade Ginko told us that emergency measures are being taken to meet in full the needs of all agricultural machine-building enterprises as regards open and other freight cars. By the Ministry of Railways, calculations, Comrade Ginko assured us, by the middle of April there will be no further reason for such alarm signals.

We at the news desk will keep you informed in the next 2 weeks on how this pledge is being fulfilled.

FARM COMMITTEE CRITICIZES DELIVERY PROBLEMS

PM241131 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 20 Mar 83 p 2

[Yu. Grachev report: "Providing Reliable Backup for Sowing: From an All-Union Operational Staff Session"]

[Text] A routine all-union operational staff for material and technical supply for agriculture session, which was opened by L.I. Khitrun, chairman of the State Committee for the Supply of Production Equipment to Agriculture, noted that many plants are successfully coping with orders for the countryside. This is having a positive effect on the pace of equipment repair work. However, there are several enterprises which are lagging with deliveries to the countryside of the necessary resources. The following are among those cited again: The Altay motor, Kharkov tractor engine, Tula combine, and Sinelnikovo spring plants; the Michurinsk Motordetal production association, the Yelgavselmash plant, the Krasnoyarsk and Barnaul industrial rubber components plants, and others.

The session's participants expressed the perfectly just opinion that it is time to move from persuasion to specific measures and apply strict sanctions against the debtors. It is time that the leaders of the USSR Ministries of Tractor and Agricultural Machine Building, the Automotive Industry, Machine Building for Animal Husbandry and Fodder Production, and the Petroleum Refining and Petrochemical Industry, to which these enterprises are subordinated, treat the complaints seriously.

The session's participants noted that recently the situation concerning the provision of agriculture with petroleum products has improved somewhat. The lag in fuel supplies permitted in January had been made up in fulfilling the February plan. At the same time, equipment is still standing idle in some place because of a shortage of gasoline, diesel fuel, and oils. A particularly complex situation has emerged in a number of oblasts in the Ukraine, Kazakhstan, and the RSFSR. The session's participants proposed that the USSR State Committee for the Supply of Petroleum Products adopt additional measures for the dispatch to the countryside of fuels and lubricants.

The session broached the question of the work of railroad transport carrying out shipments of freight for the agroindustrial complex. The main problem is the incomplete and late delivery of freightcars to industrial enterprises and petroleum depots for dispatching products.

Many tire and machine-building plants and enterprises producing spare parts are experiencing great difficulties in dispatching their products to kolkhozes and sovkhozes. The reason is again the shortage of freightcars. It is proposed that the USSR Railways Ministry do everything necessary to ensure that freight connected with the spring work reach the farms on time.

BRIEFS

UZBEK RICE CULTIVATION -- Cultivation of rice has begun in southern Uzbekistan. Uzbek rice growers are using machinery to facilitate their work. Currently, about 80 centres of rice is being harvested by the growers from each hectare of land. The Uzbek SSR produces over 20 percent of the rice yield in the Soviet Union. [Tashkent International Service in Uzbek 1700 GMT 30 Mar 83 GF]

USSR LAUNCHES MOLNIYA-1 COMMUNICATION SATELLITE

LD021042 Moscow TASS in English 1033 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Text] Moscow April 2 -- A new Molniya-1 communication satellite has been launched in the Soviet Union today. The Molniya-1 communication satellite is intended for ensuring the exploitation of the system of the long-distance telephone-and-telegraph radio communication and also transmission of the programmes of the USSR Central Television to the Orbita network points.

The sputnik was put into a high elliptical orbit with the apogee of 39,023 kilometres in the Northern Hemisphere and the perigee of 483 kilometres in the Southern Hemisphere. The period of the sputnik's revolution is 11 hours 40 minutes, the inclination of the orbit -- 62.9 degrees.

Communication sessions via the Molniya-1 sputnik will be conducted in accordance with the programme.

SCIENTISTS TO USE SATELLITES TO STUDY OCEANS

LD011008 Moscow TASS in English 0942 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Text] Moscow April 1 TASS -- Soviet scientists are planning to use special satellites to conduct permanent observation over the entire area of the world ocean, "MOSCOW NEWS" writes. This was announced by Andrey Monin, director of the Institute of Oceanology of the USSR Academy of Sciences. "Such satellites together with a wide network of automatic oceanic stations will allow for the better safety of navigation and provide more knowlege about the world ocean," said the scientist. Monin said that in recent years Soviet scientists have made several discoveries, such as finding giant whirls in the ocean that resemble the ones that originate in the atmosphere. It turned out that the whirls contain as much as 90 percent of the entire energy of ocean currents.

UZBEKISTAN SCIENCE ACADEMY ANNUAL MEETING HELD

LD311518 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 31 Mar 83

[Text] The annual general meeting of the Uzbekistan SSR Academy of Sciences was held in Tashkent today. A report entitled "Karl Marx and Topical Problems of Socialist Construction" was delivered by (Lapkin), vice president of the republican academy of sciences. The results of the scientists' work in the 2d year of the 5-year period and tasks for the researchers this year in the light of the decisions of the November 1982 CPSU Central Committee plenum were reflected in the report by the President of the Uzbekistan Academy of Sciences Academician Sadykov. Participants in the meeting identified the further extension of basic research, improvement of the structure of scientific establishments and active participation in the implementation of the Food Program as being among the paramount tasks. Taking part in the work of the general meeting were Comrade Rashidov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Uzbekistan Communist Party Central Committee.